FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 MAY 1983

Lebanon

Netanya Talks — The signing of the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement will take place on 17 May, chief Lebanese delegate Antoine Fattal said on 13 May prior to his departure for Netanya, according to Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio. Today's meeting, expected to be the last one prior to formal signing of the agreement in the presence of the U.S. delegation in Khaldah and Netanya, will be confined to a final review of the draft, the Lebanese delegate said. Although Tel Aviv IDF Radio reported earlier that the stage of clarifications concerning the agreement "has ended to Israel's satisfaction" and that Major Sa'd Haddad has been assured a "central post and expanded authority" in southern Lebanon, later Jerusalem radio and television reports indicated that last-minute differences continue concerning Haddad's status.

Lebanese Position, Contacts — The Lebanese Cabinet decided to delay approval of the draft agreement and continue discussing its provisions, AFP and Beirut radio reported following President Amin al-Jumayyil's briefing of the Cabinet during a special session on 12 May. The communique issued after their meeting indicated that the ministers had decided to continue their examination of the proposed accord and the clarifications supplied by Middle East envoy Philip Habib, AFP said. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Elie Salim and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam agreed to continue their talks for another day prior to Salim's meeting with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Before leaving for Damascus, Salim said he is undertaking the trip with an "open mind" in order to explain Lebanon's position and prove that the agreement has secured "important gains" for Lebanon, Beirut radio reported. He stressed that Lebanon is "anxious to safeguard Arab interests" as much as its own and asked for Arab understanding of Lebanon's stand and circumstances.

Earlier, President al-Asad's special envoy, Major General Muhammad al-Khuli, delivered messages from the Syrian leader during meetings with former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah and former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Beirut radio reported. Al-Khuli said his talks with Rashid Karami were "positive" and hoped that they will bring "good" to Lebanon. In another development SANA quoted Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt as saying that the agreement is "unjustifiable" because it gives Israel security, political, and economic privileges that "undermine Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and pan-Arab affiliation." Junblatt's remarks were contained in a statement issued following 2 days of meetings with Syrian officials in Damascus.

Security Situation — An Israeli soldier was killed 11 May by small arms fire in Al-Biqa', IDF Radio announced. Damascus radio accused Israel of reinforcing its positions along the contact lines in the same area by introducing a "large number" of heavy tanks, long-range heavy artillery, and other materiel.

Saudi Arabia

The withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon is "inevitable," and there can be no linkage between an Israeli withdrawal and an evacuation of Syrian troops, Saudi Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said following his meeting with Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger in Paris. According to AFP, Weinberger sought to enlist Saudi influence in convincing Syria to accept an agreement on the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon. SPA reported that U.S.-Saudi cooperation was the subject of the meeting and that the question of Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon was not raised.

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, accompanied by other PLO officials, arrived in Damascus from Tunis, Radio Monte Carlo reported. The radio said that the reason behind the "unexpected" visit is the reported emergence of signs of division in Fatah's ranks. Earlier, Beirut Voice of Lebanon radio said that clashes took place between Palestinian factions inside a Fatah camp in Lebanon and that PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir was detained by followers of a pro-Syrian group.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

More than 80 people were killed or wounded in the city of Dezful following an Iraqi missile attack, Tehran radio reported on 12 May. An earlier missile attack the same day against Andimeshk killed 17 people died and wounded 123 others, according to another report by the radio. Iran vowed to "avenge" the victims and not allow the Iraqis "to continue their crimes with impunity," President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i said in a broadcast by Tehran radio.

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Monte Carlo: 'Arafat, Khalaf Arrive in Damascus
JN130714 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0700 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, accompanied by Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, arrived in Damascus from Tunis at dawn today. The real reasons behind this unexpected visit are not yet known, although some press reports have spoken of the emergence of signs of division among the Fatah ranks.

QNA: 'Arafat Visit to Saudi Arabia Planned
GF121150 Doha QNA in Arabic 1115 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Riyadh, 12 May (QNA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will visit Saudi Arabia next week to meet with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-JAZIRAH, Fatah representative in Saudi Arabia Rafiq an-Natshah said that Mr 'Arafat will discuss with the Saudi king the developments on the Arab and international arena, particularly the assesment of the results of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' recent visit to the region.

Further Reaction to Lebanese-Israeli Accord

PLO's Faruq Qaddumi Comments
GF121120 Doha QNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Kuwait, 12 May (QNA) — Faruq Qaddumi, PLO Political Department head, has stated that the PLO is still studying the provisions of the Lebanese-Israeli accord and its goal and dimensions and it is also collecting information on its addendums.

In a statement to today's issue of the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, Qaddumi affirmed that the Syrian-Palestinian relations entered a new stage with the meeting between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, stressing that the Syrian-Palestinian relationship is strategic.

On reports that the PLO has decided to move its headquarters from Tunis to Damascus, Qaddumi said: The Palestinian revolution considers all Arab countries its headquarters and what concerns us now is to mobilize energies and potentials to face the Zionist enemy.

Concluding, Faruq Qaddumi said: The presence of forces in distant places is not an obstacle for us because these forces can be sent to fight in a few hours in case a battle breaks out between us and the Zionist enemy.

SANA: PPSF Criticism
JN121840 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1315 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 12 May (SANA) — The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF] has stressed that the real dimensions and dangers of the Zionist-Lebanese agreement are aimed at the security of Syria and the entire region. The agreement is also a danger against the Palestine question and an indicator of a Zionist aggression against Syria, the Palestinian resistance, and the Arab liberation forces. It also encourages the Jordanian regime to join the U.S. capitulatory settlements on the basis of the Reagan plan.

In the editorial of its paper which will be issued tomorrow, the PPSF asserted that the development of the role of the Arab nationalist and progressive forces supported by the progressive and liberation forces in the world, especially the USSR, will have a great effect in preventing deterioration in the Arab region.

The PPSF stressed that the rejection of the draft agreement by Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and Arab and world liberation forces, will have a great effect in confronting the Zionist-U.S. designs and foiling this serious plan.

Chedli Klibi on Peace Plans, Maghreb Unity
PM121528 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 13 May 83 pp 35, 38

[Interview with Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi by Wafa'i Diyab in Tunis "shortly before his departure for Beirut for talks with Lebanese officials"]

[Excerpts] AL-HAWADITH: What is the alternative if the United States fails to persuade Israel to follow a peaceful course?

Klibi: When we speak about the need to struggle for the success of the Fes plan we mean that we are strongly resolved to bring about the success of this plan. We must devote all efforts and all the means at our disposal to its success. We must explain to our friends throughout the world that the failure of such efforts in the present exceptional Arab and international circumstances would have serious consequences on the area for both peoples and governments. The failure of those efforts would mean that the world community is incapable of imposing respect for law and ethics and that the law of the jungle rules supreme.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you believe that it is possible to reconcile Reagan's initiative and the Fes initiative so that one plan will emerge, a plan that will provide a just and lasting peace in the area?

Klibi: When I spoke about the struggle to bring about the success of the Arab peace plan I meant, among other things, bringing the Arab and U.S. plans closer to each other. There is a wide gap between the two, particularly with regard to recognizing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, a right which is recognized in international law and the UN Charter. It is a right that the United States recognizes, and its foreign policy is based on its principles; it applies it to Afghanistan, Poland, Germany, and the Asian peoples. How can the United States ignore this fundamental principle with regard to the Palestinian people? This is a serious point to which our countries should direct their efforts in order to persuade the U.S. Administration.

AL-HAWADITH: Contacts, to which, of course, you are a party, are being held in order to hold an extraordinary Arab summit. Do you think that such a summit is possible, and is it necessary?

Klibi: The extraordinary summit is related to an extraordinary situation. The idea was considered during the talks between Jordan and the PLO on reaching agreement on the question of the peace process. We thought it was necessary that we should lend support to this bilateral agreement through Arab unanimity. This could only be attained at summit level. The talks between Jordan and the PLO, although they have been suspended, did not end. Efforts are now being made by various quarters in order to resume them. It must be pointed out here, however, that the suspension of these bilateral talks was not due to misunderstanding between two Arab sides so much as to the lack of U.S. guarantees that would give the U.S. role in the peace process sufficient credibility. This is what our Palestinian brothers have been asking for and this is what our countries are trying to obtain in their various contacts with the United States. We hope that the U.S. side will come forward with new steps that will give confidence in the U.S. role, a role that is successful and capable of overcoming difficulties.

AL-HAWADITH: Who, in your opinion, is responsible for the suspension of the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue, and what is the Arab League's role in this regard?

Klibi: The responsibility falls on the party that was supposed to give the necessary guarantees to generate confidence in the success of the peace plan. I mean the United States.

So far, the U.S. Administration has not been successful in any of the steps it has announced that it is capable of taking with regard to Lebanon. It has made several promises that withdrawal would take place at certain fixed dates but nothing happened. With regard to the West Bank the U.S. Administration asked several times for a halt to settlement building, but Israel did not respond.

On the contrary we saw the Israeli Prime Minister Begin responding with strong and defiant rejection. With regard to the U.S. peace plan we all know that Israel was the first to reject it, and its rejection was strong and audacious.

How, therefore, can our Palestinian brothers have confidence in the effectiveness of the U.S. role? This is the main reason for the suspension of the talks. Our countries are now trying to sort out the situation.

AL-HAWADITH: U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is optimistic about the future situation in Lebanon and the possibility of reaching agreement ensuring withdrawal from the Lebanese territory. Do you share his optimism on the basis of your view of the present situation in Lebanon and the area?

Klibi: I do not share his optimism because we all know the Israeli policy and the long-term objectives it is aiming to achieve. But we would like to believe that the United States this time is serious about reaching positive results. We know that it is capable when it wants to be. If it is strongly determined and earnest — dispatching the Secretary of State to the Middle East could be an indication of the earnestness of the U.S. stand — then it can impose a reasonable solution that would ensure Lebanon its political independence, economic prosperity, and strong national accord.

AL-HAWADITH: There is a current international belief that in any peace negotiations there will be a direct dialogue with Palestinians of the occupied territories without the PLO.

Klibi: We believe that any attempt of this sort will contribute to the emergence of the undeniable and evident truth that all the Palestinians adhere to their organization and that none of them denies that it is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, with the exception of the few who collaborate with the Israeli occupation forces. This is natural and happens in all parts of the world. It happened even in France when it was under German occupation.

AL-HAWADITH: Countries of the Arab Maghreb are holding contacts and trying to achieve unity. Do you believe that such unity is likely to be achieved in the near future?

Klibi: There are still obstacles on the path of this unity which we hope will be finally overcome with regard to the Sahara problem. We consider this plan, which is aimed at organizing relations between the countries of the Arab Maghreb on the basis of cooperation, integration, and solidarity, to be very important for the countries of the area as well as for the Arab countries and the Arab nation. This is because the strengthening of one of the wings of the Arab nation is a strengthening for the whole nation. A similar thing happened in the Gulf countries when they organized their relations within the framework of the GCC. I believe that this was not withdrawal from the rest of the Arab nation but rather an enhancement of the strength of the whole Arab community so that it will be able to contribute more effectively to the efforts related to the future of the Arab nation and joint Arab action in all fields.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Delegation Plans Baghdad-Tehran Shuttle

PM130827 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 12 May 83 p 1

[Gulf Bureau report: "Gulf Delegation To Embark on Shuttle Between Iraq and Iran"]

[Text] Gulf political sources have confirmed to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that a delegation, including Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah, will embark on a shuttle between Baghdad and Tehran to try and achieve a formula for ending their current differences regarding initiation of joint efforts, through the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment, to stop the flow of oil from the Iranian Nowruz field and combat the oil slick — the black monster — in the Gulf.

The sources say that the decision to form the delegation and define its task was made during the GCC emergency meeting held last Monday in Manama. They add that the date of the tour will be fixed during the GCC ordinary meeting scheduled to be held Sunday in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

The sources have also revealed that Kuwait and the UAE are willing to run joint patrols in the Nowruz field area if agreement is reached regarding Iranian conditions for the commencement of work on capping and repairing the damaged well.

It has been learned that Iran welcomes the visit of the Gulf delegation and the possibility of developing its mission to include working for an end to the Iraq-Iran war, if it manages to find a formula acceptable to both sides for stopping the oil leak.

Highly placed Gulf sources say that the black monster crisis could assume serious proportions if Nowruz rigs 6 and 7 collapse because of melting valves, which would mean a total of 16,000 barrels of oil will be lost daily.

KUWAIT

Defense Minister Announces Purchase of Mirages

LD121258 Kuwait KUNA in English 1130 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Kuwait, May 12 (KUNA) — Kuwait has purchased 12 French-made Mirage jet fighters, Defense Minister Shaykh Salim As-Sabah announced. Shaykh Salim made the announcement to reporters Wednesday night upon arrival here following a tour to France and England, accompanied by a ranking military delegation.

Shaykh Salim noted that Kuwait and France agreed on continuing dialogue for the purchase of additional French arms particularly helicopter gunships. The Kuwaiti official noted that France is aware of dangers of the Iraqi-Iranian war pointing out that its continuity threatens the security of the region.

The minister disclosed that his visit to France was made at the invitation of the French Defense Minister Charles Hernu. The visit covered political and military aspects.

On the military aspect, Shaykh Salim indicated the Kuwaiti military delegation was briefed on new French weapons and also attended demonstration of French arms. At the political level, the minister clarified that "due to the absence of the French President Francois Mitterrand, who was on an official visit to China, I met with Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy and discussed the Lebanese issue, the Palestinian cause and the Iraqi-Iranian war."

Shaykh Salim said the French premier was very understanding. Moreover, Shaykh Salim elaborated that he had also discussed with French officials the oil slick and its dangers on marine wealth of the Gulf. Answering a question on whether France expressed willingness to assist in combating the slick, Shaykh Salim pointed out that this issue was not discussed during the visit.

Regarding the situation in Lebanon, the minister said the Lebanese draft agreement was not reached while the French-Kuwaiti talks were underway. "We still are not briefed on outcome of the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's visit in order to evaluate impact of the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement", he concluded.

SAUDI ARABIA

U.S., Europe Accused of Technology Monopoly

GF120932 Doha QNA in Arabic 0808 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 May (QNA) — Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi, minister of industry and electricity, has accused the United States and the Western countries of opposing the Gulf and Third World countries in the transfer of technology and called for a unified stand toward these practices.

In a statement to today's issue of the newspaper AL-ITTIHAD, published here, Al-Qusaybi said: despite our good trade relations with the United States and the Western countries, we are still facing immense difficulties when we want to build a factory. Indeed, establishing industrial projects in the region seems to be an imaginary attempt because it is so difficult. He indicated that some factories in the United States have prevented Saudi trainees from approaching the factories, and that these factories have threatened that if young Saudi men were to be trained in them, workers would plan a strike.

The Saudi minister said not a week passes without Congress issuing warnings and threats about the future, the depletion of Western technology, and the transfer of technology to Saudi Arabia and other Third World countries.

Al-Qusaybi said Western institutions claim to be worried over the developing societies because, they claim that drastic developmental changes affect the developing countries politically and economically. He called on the region's countries to adopt a decisive stand toward attempts by the European countries which try to block the transfer of technology to the Third World countries in general and the Gulf countries in particular.

Defense Minister, Weinberger Meet 12 May

LD121237 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Paris, 12 May (SPA) — At his place of residence in Paris this morning, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and general inspector, met with U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. The meeting was attended by the Saudi ambassador to France, Jamil al-Hujaylan.

After the 3-hour meeting, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan said that he had discussed with the U.S. defense secretary the facets of cooperation between the two countries in general, and military cooperation in particular, in addition to matters of common interest. In response to a question regarding the withdrawal of Syria from Lebanon, his royal highness said this issue was not raised during the meeting. Concerning the issue of the possibility of the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, his royal highness confirmed that this issue did not need discussion as it was certain. He also said, however, that he did not believe it possible for such a long meeting to have taken place and not have dealt with this subject.

In response to a question on whether the U.S. defense secretary received what he came for — assistance — his royal highness said that the meeting was a scheduled one between the two ministers; therefore, there were no definite demands by Secretary Weinberger. Regarding the question of whether the issue of the withdrawal of Syria from Lebanon would be discussed in the Kingdom, his royal highness said that Syria had entered Lebanon at the request of the latter, and its withdrawal would once again be in accordance with the desire of Lebanon.

Prince Comments After Meeting

NC121215 Paris AFP in English 1209 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Paris, May 12 (AFP) — The withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon is "inevitable," Saudi Defense Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said here today, adding that there could be no linkage between an Israeli withdrawal and an evacuation of Syrian troops.

"The Syrian Army entered Lebanon at the request of that country and its departure depends on the desires of the Lebanese," Prince Sultan told reporters after a three-and-a-half hour meeting here with U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Mr Weinberger made no comment following the meeting that according to U.S. press reports had been designed to enlist Saudi influence in convincing Syria to accept an agreement on foreign troops withdrawal from Lebanon worked out last week by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

But Prince Sultan said earlier that Saudi Arabia "will not be the instrument of any state — large or small — and will not serve as a means to apply pressure against the interests of the Arab nation." The agreement, approved by the Lebanese Government and accepted in principle by the Israeli Cabinet, calls for a withdrawal of Israeli forces and provides security guarantees for Israel in southern Lebanon. Israel, however, has said implementation of the accord is contingent upon the withdrawal of Syrian and Palestinian troops as well.

In a meeting last Saturday with Mr Shultz in Damascus, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad rejected the agreement, charging that it was an infringement of Lebanese sovereignty.

Radio on Sultan's Denial of Pressure on Syria

LD121436 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 May 83

[News analyses by Abdallah Sulayman al-Khurayyif]

[Excerpts] His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and defense minister, who is paying an official visit to France, has met and will meet with senior French Government officials. His royal highness has met with French President Francois Mitterrand and with his French counterpart Charles Hernu. Following his meeting with the French president, which was attended by Saudi ambassador to France Jamil al-Hujaylan, his royal highness explained that his talks dealt with the consolidation of bilateral relations between the two countries.

In an interview given by his royal highness, to French television, he answered a question on reports that the United States may ask the Kingdom to put pressure on Syria to make it accept the Lebanese-Israeli agreement from Lebanon, the agreement achieved by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during his shuttle. His royal highness confirmed that the Kingdom has never been and will never be a tool of any other state, whether it is small or large, to apply pressure against the interests of the Arab nation; the Kingdom that is considered in view of the [words indistinct] the most eager to safeguard them.

The statements, or rather the answers given by his royal highness to the questions by Arab and foreign journalists, and during the television program, confirmed the Kingdom's eagerness to spare sister Lebanon what could adversely affect its national interests and complete sovereignty over its territory. This has been confirmed by all the events witnessed by the Lebanese cause, and by the sincere efforts aimed at backing the Lebanese legitimate authority and assisting it to impose its strong control over all Lebanon.

Monte Carlo on Saudi Reaction to Draft Agreement

JN121515 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The Paris-based magazine AL-MUSTAQABAL cited informed Saudi sources as saying that the Saudi leaders informed U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during his visit to Jidda last week that Saudi Arabia believes that Syria should be given political and security guarantees before asking it to approve any Israeli-Lebanese draft agreement.

Paper Criticizes Israel-Lebanon Agreement

LD121312 Riyadh SPA in English 1222 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Riyadh, May 12, SPA — A Saudi newspaper today criticized a draft agreement between Israel and Lebanon orchestrated by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and said it had ignored certain historic facts.

AR-RIYADH, published here, said the agreement had completely brushed aside the fact that Lebanon had not been in war with Israel which invaded the country and that the 1949 armistice agreement was still in effect. The paper added that the agreement had also ignored the crux of the Middle East conflict, the Palestinian issue.

It accused Israel of attempts to "turn Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate and an outlet for the Israeli economy which is suffering from isolation and recession."

The paper expressed fear that Israel might have convinced Washington with its false supremacy in the region and talked the American Administration into giving a green light for the agreement.

Meanwhile AN-NADWAH published from Mecca, hailed efforts undertaken by the Kingdom's leaders to ensure foreign troops withdrawal from Lebanon and re-establish the country's sovereignty and independence.

The paper referred to Prince Sultan, the second deputy premier and defence and aviation minister's statement last night in Paris in which he made it clear that the Kingdom was not a tool in the hand of others to carry out their evil designs.

PDRY

Chairman Receives YAR Military Committee

GF121724 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received at the Presidium's Secretariat today, the members of the YAR military committee — which is part of the joint military committee of the two parts of the homeland — headed by Lieutenant Colonel 'Ali Muhammad Salah, YAR deputy chief of staff.

During the meeting, issues that concern the interests, happiness, and unity of the land of the Yemeni people were discussed.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad affirmed the importance of unity and coordination between the two parts which serves the Yemeni people's interests.

The joint military committee of the two parts of the homeland will hold its first session of 1983 in Aden tomorrow morning and will discuss the issues on its agenda.

Mubarak Opens Projects in Marsa Matruh

NC121210 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today continued his field tours of the sites of work and production in the republic's governorates. This morning, he visited the Marsa Matruh Governorate and inaugurated a number of food production projects and housing units. He also inaugurated a new radio transmission station. Mubarak met with the chieftains and shaykhs of the Marsa Matruh Governorate's tribes.

Accompanying President Mubarak on this tour were Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and War Production Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Social Insurance Minister Dr Amal 'Uthman, Reconstruction Minister Engineer Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif, Agriculture Minister Yusuf Wali, and Minister of Local Government Sa'd Ma'mun.

Ash-Sharif on Mubarak Speech

NC121626 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 May 83

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak visited the Marsa Matruh governorate this morning. He began his inspection tour by visiting the new land reclamation area west of Marsa Matruh. He heard an explanation by the officials on the mechanized agriculture machinery used in the reclamation and cultivation of these lands. The president then visited the area allocated to the Bedouins for settlement. He inspected the water reservoirs and dams, and saw the houses constructed for farmers in these desert areas. The president gave directions to give aid to the Bedouins so that they may own these houses, the cost of which reached 1.24 million pounds.

Following this, the president laid the cornerstone for the low-cost housing in Marsa Matruh, the cost of which reached 11 million pounds. The president recommended the establishment of youth centers and libraries in all the new quarters.

At the end of his tour, the president attended the popular conference which was held on this occasion.

The following is a recording of the statements which Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif made on the speech which President Mubarak delivered at the popular conference that was held in Marsa Matruh governorate:

[Begin recording] The National Democratic Party's secretary general spoke at the beginning of the popular meeting. He expressed his gratitude, appreciation, allegiance and support to the president on the occasion of his visit and on the occasion of his Labor Day speech.

President Husni Mubarak then spoke. His talk to the Bedouins of the western desert was a fraternal talk. The president said that he feels that Matruh lives in security and safety and that it is working diligently toward the implementation of the projects which he inspected today. The president added that work and production are the only course for Egypt's progress and prosperity. We must continue to work in order that Egypt may remain an example in this Arab area representing its history and civilization.

The president went on: It is not my custom to speak much on occasions that follow each other closely. I will speak in a few days on the occasion of the People's Assembly day. You heard me speaking a few days ago on the occasion of Labor Day.

The president spoke briefly about the internal and external situations at the popular conference. He said: Egypt is the country belonging to all of us. Egypt belongs to every Egyptian citizen living on the land of this country, and it is not the property of a specific individual or faction.

Referring to democracy, the president said: Democracy is the safety valve in this country. Every stage in our history had its circumstances and requirements. However there will be no retreat or backdown from democracy. The president added: We are all Egyptians and we work for the interests of Egypt. The ruling party is comprised of Egyptians and so are all the other parties. All the parties are patriotic and honest. Everybody works but work must be for the sake of Egypt.

The president then said: The democratic system brings everything to light in the interests of the people. He added: The real challenge to Egypt is construction. We have no time to waste on anything else. Action and efforts should be directed toward the realization of the masses' demands. Our criticisms, dialogues, studies, disagreements, and agreements must be in the interests of the people. Our way of thinking must be logical and practical. It must conform with our values and traditions. We must look toward the future.

The president added: We have prepared a 5-year plan. It requires hard work. It was prepared under circumstances of democracy. However we must realize that freedom must serve the interests of the people and it must not impede their march or development. Freedom must serve the public national interests. Freedom must mean a respect of the freedoms of others and it must sanctify the law for the sake of the society.

The president went on: Egypt enjoys political and economic stability. This is clear in our Arab area and in the world. We must strengthen this stability in the interests of the people and development.

The president then spoke about the strategic situation. He said: Egypt's strategy is clear and firm. We do not exchange information duels with any side. It is no longer necessary to enter into a dialogue on this strategy which is in response to the will of this people. It is the strategy of peace.

The president said: The armed forces are the shield of Egypt and the people of Egypt. They alone defend this strategy, Egyptian policy, and the gains of the people.

The president continued: Egypt has all its territory restored. Sinai has been restored. You witnessed with me the celebrations

marking the restoration of Sinai. This was achieved in applying the first framework of the Camp David agreement. After peace, Egypt turned to development through the 5-year plan which began with the 1982/83 budget.

The president explained Egypt's moves to establish a just and durable peace in the area. He also explained the Jordanian and Palestinian role in beginning the peace march. The president said: Until this moment, the Camp David accord is the only paper which Egypt, Israel, and the United States have signed. Egypt abides by all its agreements and it is determined to work for the success of the peace process in order that comprehensive peace may prevail. A Jordanian-Palestinian agreement will serve the interests of the cause and save the occupied Arab territory.

The president dealt with the Arab relations and contacts. He said: I will speak at the People's Assembly on Saturday, God willing. [end recording]

'Ali, Oprea Discuss Middle East, Relations

NC121310 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today held a meeting with Romanian Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Gheorghe Oprea. It was attended by the Romanian ambassador in Cairo. During the meeting, a review was made of the Middle East situation and bilateral relations.

Gheorghe Oprea made a statement in which he said that he has a message from the Romanian president for President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. He added that the Romanian president will visit Cairo and that a date for the visit wil be fixed through diplomatic channels. He said that his talks in Cairo have been successful and that the talks will contribute to promoting relations between Egypt and Romania, increasing the volume of trade exchange between the two countries and bolstering relations between the two countries under the policies of Presidents Mubarak and Ceausescu.

Industry and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Muhammad al-Gharuri also met with Oprea today. They discussed the means to promote technical cooperation between the two countries. Also discussed were the chemical and mineral projects that are currently being implemented in Egypt and the prospects of cooperation between the two countries in the implementation of some engineering and mineral projects.

Kuwaiti Paper Interviews Ghali on PLO, Israel

LD121341 Kuwait KUNA in English 1051 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Kuwait, May 12 (KUNA) — Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said Egyptian-Arab relations will remain strong regardless of differences over some issues.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti "AL-QABAS" daily paper published Thursday Ghali said the objective of Egypt and Arab states is "peace based on justice."

The Egyptian official stressed the significance of Arab solidarity adding that Egypt takes a special pride in its relations with the Gulf Arab states.

Ghali said the crisis in relations between Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organization has been overcome and that Egypt insists that the PLO must play a role in the Middle East peace talks.

The Egyptian official said the time factor is important in the process of reaching a solution to the Palestinian question adding that Israel is exploiting the time to prolong its occupation of Arab lands.

Ghali said practical efforts aimed at solving the Palestinian issue should start before 1985.

The official said the Egyptian ambassador to Israel, ordered back to Cairo after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, won't return to Tel Aviv until Israel withdrew its troops from Lebanon.

Ghali said the strained Egyptian-Libyan relations will be restored if Libya "changes its behavior."

Ghali Returns to Cairo From European Visit

NC122002 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1905 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 12 May (MENA) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali returned to Cairo from Geneva tonight after visits to the Netherlands and Switzerland lasting 6 days.

On his return, Ghali said that during his stay in Geneva he held talks with the ILO and International Red Cross officials. He added that in the Netherlands he held talks with Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek on ways of bolstering the relations between Egypt and the Netherlands and the EC's role in the Middle East peace issue.

Dr Ghali pointed out that he attended the meetings of the International Law Committee which were held in the Dutch capital last week.

Spokesman On 'Ali-Veliotes Meeting 12 May

NC121454 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The official spokesman for the Foreign Ministry has stated that Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, during his meeting with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Nicholas Veliotes today, explained Egypt's view on the agreement on Lebanon that has been accomplished. He said that this agreement must be a step toward the restoration of stability and the legitimate authority's sovereignty in Lebanon as well as a step on the path for achieving a peaceful settlement of the problem.

The spokesman added that Kamal Hasan 'Ali was briefed by the U.S. assistant secretary of state on the results of the talks which the U.S. secretary of state held during his tour.

Meanwhile, the U.S. assistant secretary of state said that the U.S. secretary of state had asked him to inform Egypt of the latest developments of his task which ended recently and which was related to achieving an agreement between Lebanon and Israel and the arrangements according to which Israel will withdraw completely from Lebanon. The U.S. assistant secretary of state said that Lebanon will officially ratify the agreement in the next few days.

MENA Reports on Shura Council Recommendations

NC121352 Cairo MENA in English 1310 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Cairo, May 12 (MENA) — A Shura Council Committee has recommended that Egyptian and Sudanese defence be regulated through a joint defence council and a joint military staff. The committee further recommended that a standing military committee be set up to monitor the implementation of military decisions and recommendations, prepare for various meetings, and conduct necessary studies and research work.

In its initial report to the Shura Council, the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee recommended that foreign policies and diplomatic and consular representation of the two countries be coordinated. It called for coordination of Egyptian and Sudanese delegations sent abroad and intensification of diplomatic representation to achieve the objectives of the integration plan.

The Shura Council, under its speaker Dr. Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, resumed today its debate of the report which called, among other things, for the establishment of military research and strategic studies centres, coordination of militery industries and strategic location of military plants to achieve security goals of both countries.

The report also called for a joint plan for military industries to realise self-sufficiency.

The report recommended that Egyptian and Sudanese plans in all fields be coordinated, projects be unified, investment laws be reviewed, obstacles facing investment projects be removed, and necessary foundations for monetary relations between the two countries be established.

In the field of industry, the report called for coordination of agricultural policies with the aim of increasing farm production, encouraging the trend of offering farm land for private ownership, and depending on mechanized farming for joint agricultural ventures.

As regards housing, the report recommended that special attention be given to the development of the southern Egypt-northern Sudan region in order to achieve the necessary link between the integration zone in both countries. It further recommended that Arab and foreign investment in the field of construction be attracted.

In a statement before the Shura Council, assistant secretary general of the Higher Council for Integration Major General 'Abd as-Sattar Amin said the first phase of the ten-year integration plan would require two years to complete. He said this initial phase would be used to conduct feasibility studies for joint venures and enhance cultural and intellectual relations between the two countries. The following two phases he said, would be used to complete the integration process and create a suitable climate for the merger of both countries.

Maj Gen Amin said Arab and African countries are welcome to join the integration process between Egypt and Sudan, in preparation for total Arab unity.

The Shura Council will resume its debate on May 21.

AL-AHRAM on PLO Exclusion From Mideast Talks

NC130814 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0425 GMT 13 May 83

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Under the title "Without the PLO," AL-AHRAM today says: The idea of initiating expanded peace talks without the PLO's approval has begun to assume a positive form in Washington. The idea was originally born following the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut at the hands of foreigners, who are even foreign to the PLO.

It is true that this idea has past roots, particularly in the Israeli side. However, the idea was publicly and officially announced in the U.S. arena in the aftermath of the embassy's bombing. President Reagan and his secretary of state believe that events have gone beyond the PLO in a way that its representation of the Palestinians has become doubtful. The United States consequently warned that the talks may be held without the PLO.

AL-AHRAM says that this trend was confirmed in U.S. attempts to explore the Arab stand when Reagan requested the Arab states to define their stance on the negotiations if they are held without the PLO's approval, particularly after the broadening of the bombing attacks. It adds: There is evidence that it is being seriously contemplated to hold the negotiations without the PLO's approval or without it entirely. This is a new and frank stand which has begun to crystallize. Some Palestinian actions justify or encourage this stand, or provide at least an excuse for it. This will ultimately serve only the Israeli stance, which has insisted and still insists on excluding the PLO.

AL-AHRAM refers to Egypt's announcement that this trend toward doing away with the PLO is considered a serious change that is creating a serious situation. Egypt has tried and is still trying to prevent this change, but the signs are strong, and they regrettably come from irresponsible Arab and Palestinian sides.

In conclusion, AL-AHRAM says: Is it ultimately intended to find solutions to the question in the absence of its legitimate owners?

Communique on 11-12 May War Operations

JN121622 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 May 83

[Communique No 1,089 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 12 May]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces continued their activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the regime of evil and aggression. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units sighted and then opened artillery fire on a group of enemy troops opposite our positions east of Basra, killing six and wounding others.

2. An armed Iranian soldier, who ran away from the hell of the sanquinary Khomeyniite regime, sought refuge with one of our forward units in the northern sector of the battlefield the day before yesterday. He was evacuated to the rear.

3. Three vehicles, one of which was carrying a 106-mm gun, and one observation post were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

4. One was killed and one infantry position and one observation post destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

5. Today the vile Khomeyniite clique shelled Basra and its outskirts with artillery, causing damage to some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 12 May 1983

Tariq 'Aziz Confers With France's Hernu 13 May

JN131134 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1057 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Paris, 13 May (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with Charles Hernu, French defense minister.

In a statement to the INA Paris correspondent following the meeting, which lasted more than 1 hour, Tariq 'Aziz said that his talks with Hernu on Iraqi-French relations were held in a friendly atmosphere. Iraqi ambassador in Paris Dr Muhammad al-Mashshat attended.

King Husayn Meets With Francis Pym 12 May

JN121844 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn met in London today with Francis Pym, secretary of state for foreign and Commonwealth affairs. Talks dealt with the various current issues, headed by the Middle East crisis. The meeting was attended by the Jordanian ambassador in London.

Sources Cite Objectives of Husayn's Tour

PM130803 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 9 May 83 p 1

[Unattributed "exclusive" report: "Husayn in Europe To Discuss Peace Process Revival"]

[Excerpt] London, Amman -- [no date given] King Husayn arrived in London yesterday for a visit lasting several days. He will meet with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and senior British officials. The Jordanian monarch is also expected to visit other European capitals. Jordanian sources have emphasized that King Husayn's tour has the following objectives:

1. To discuss the possibility of joining the peace negotiations following agreement in Lebanon.

2. To hear West European views regarding the chances of peace.

3. To urge Europe to put pressure on the United States to work for a suspension of settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

4. To discuss the possibility of modifying the present peace initiatives to include a guarantee of the Palestinian people's rights and provide for the participation of their representatives in any negotiations.

West Bank, Gaza Arabs To Form 'Popular Front'

JN121933 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The newspaper AL-MITHAQ, which is published in occupied Jerusalem, has reported that groups of citizens from the occupied West Bank and Gaza are holding contacts to form a front, which they agreed to call the Popular Front- Popular Alliance [al-jabhah ash-sha'biyah-at-tahaluf ash-sha'biy].

The paper said that mayors, members of chambers of commerce, intellectual youths, and professional men have been active in forming this front since the suspension of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks.

They held an exclusive meeting a few days ago to study the general framework for current and future moves and the best methods for convening an expanded meeting before the end of this month.

The paper said representatives of this front will visit Amman and other Arab capitals soon to coordinate and consult on this matter.

Meanwhile, lawyer 'Abd ar-Rahman ash-Sharif has published an appeal in the newspaper AL-QUDS in which he said that the phase through which the Palestine question is passing is serious. The appeal calls on every devout citizen to express his opinion and demand support for concerted efforts to regain the land.

Ash-Sharif called for consolidating ties with Jordan and avoiding any split in opinions on this subject.

Jordan-Palestinian Committee Meets in Amman

JN121634 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Amman, 12 May (PETRA) — The heads of the Jordanian and Palestinian sides to the Jordanian-Palestinian Committee held a meeting this morning during which they discussed some topics related to extending aid to projects in several development sectors in the occupied territories.

They adopted the necessary decisions regarding them.

Reportage on Agreement, 13 May Negotiations

Fattal Statement

NC130745 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Today's session will be confined to an exchange of formulas [siyagh] and 12 copies of the agreement in 4 languages. The official signing of the agreement might perhaps take place next Tuesday under U.S. sponsorship in Lebanon and Israel.

In a statement he made to a radio reporter prior to the delegation's departure from Beirut airport this morning, head of the Lebanese delegation Dr Antoine Fattal said that the signing of the agreement will take place next Tuesday. He added that the Lebanese delegation will sign the agreement at Khaldah, while the Israeli side will sign it in Netanya or in Qiryat Shemona. The two sides will sign the agreement in the presence of the U.S. delegation.

When it comes to today's work in Netanya, it will be confined to an exchange of formulas at a brief session that will permit the Lebanese delegation to return to Beirut at around noontime.

Journalists Interview Fattal, Kimche

NC130821 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0743 GMT 13 May 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation at Dan Hotel in Netanya — live]

[Text] Amid a crowd of journalists, radio reporters,and press photographers, the meeting of the three delegations began moments ago under the chairmanship of Dr Fattal, Ambassador Draper, and Kimche. We learned moments ago that the date for signing the proposed agreement for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon will be announced at the end of today's session.

A source in the official Lebanese delegation told us a minute ago that today's meeting is for the purpose of comparing the four texts of the proposed agreement — the Arabic, Hebrew, French, and English texts. The source said that the three delegations will in the end receive the four texts so that they will be able to compare them continually (?during) the phases of implementation. These documents will be exchanged today.

The Lebanese delegation has not yet revealed the signing date and has left the matter to the end of the session. It has described today's phase as the one before the final phase. The delegation has denied that today's session will be formal. The official Lebanese spokesman, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, has said that this session precedes the signing phase.

My colleague will now speak to you. Before the beginning of the session, the head of the Lebanese delegation, Dr Antoine Fattal, replied to journalists' questions. In reply to a question, he declared that today's session is dedicated to making a reading of the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement in its four texts — Arabic, Hebrew, French, and English. On the signing date, Dr Fattal said: We will see today; we will study everything. On the results that are expected to be achieved today, Dr Fattal said: We will submit a report on today's session to the quarters concerned.

Commenting on today's session, Christopher Ross, member of the U.S. delegation, said: This session will cover all the details, and we will complete the preparation of the draft agreement in its final form. About the signing date, Ross emphasized that during today's round of talks, a date will be fixed for signing the draft.

Head of the Israeli delegation David Kimche, asked about the date of withdrawal from Lebanon, replied: Ask the Syrians. He was then asked: What is the means for ensuring complete withdrawals whereby you and the Syrians will withdraw? He replied: There are several means, the most important is the need for [word indistinct] pressures to be exerted on Syria, because the question of our withdrawal from Lebanon is settled but it is conditional upon the Syrian withdrawal. Kimche did not wish to reply to a question as to what will happen if Syria refuses to withdraw from Lebanon. However, General Tamir said: They will withdraw with kisses.

Reports on Accord's Contents

NC130942 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0805 GMT 13 May 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry mission at Dan Hotel in Netanya — live]

[Text] The two current questions are: What is the text of the proposed agreement, and when will it be signed? It appears that we will know the signing date upon the conclusion of today's meetings, as the members of the Lebanese and U.S. delegations have told us.

As for the contents of the draft agreement, no official text of the draft agreement has been announced so far. The members of the three delegations have imposed a curtain of complete secrecy on its contents. However, some statements, particularly President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's statements to the Kuwaiti press last Sunday, have portrayed the general framework and the basic principles of the agreement. Within the context of the difficult Lebanese and Arab situation, Lebanon insists on regaining its dignity and national sovereignty and independence. For this reason, the Lebanese negotiator has obstinately adhered to three redlines which Lebanon will not allow to be jeopardized. These are: Lebanon's sovereignty, the unity of the Lebanese people, and Lebanon's affiliation with its Arab environs.

The news agencies that reported on the draft agreement this morning said that Lebanon has chosen to ensure the withdrawal of the Israeli forces in return for minimum concessions. They said that the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon will be complete. They also said that Israel has clearly expressed its intention that it will not withdraw its forces unless this is accompanied by a parallel withdrawal of the Syrian forces. Every time he is asked about the date of the Israeli withdrawal, head of the Israeli delegation David Kimche answers: Ask the Syrians.

Meanwhile, news agencies have quoted informed sources as having said that the proposed agreement ensures the restoration of Lebanon's complete sovereignty over its territory, because it ends the quasi-independent entity in the south and restores it to the motherland. As for Israel, it will have no presence other than within the framework of tripartite observation committees that will embrace Lebanese and Americans and about 50 Israelis. In any case, these committees will not operate for more than 2 years. On the basis of adherence to sovereignty, the proposed agreement does not contain any reference to the position of any officer in the Lebanese Army, because this is an internal Lebanese affair that should not be dealt with in international agreements. Lebanon has not pledged anything with regard to the future of relations with Israel, as this is a matter that will be discussed again after 6 months — that is, after the complete withdrawal of the Israeli forces.

These are some of the agreement's contents that have been leaked to some journalists. They certainly require an official confirmation upon the publication of the text of the agreement. However, the general principles are no longer secret to anyone. They have been declared by President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil more than once and he acted upon then during the previous phase, and he is insisting on them in the coming phases.

Accord's Positive Points

NC131014 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0857 GMT 13 May 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation at Dan Hotel in Netanya — live]

[Text] The Information Ministry delegation in Netanya is again with you. The meeting of the three delegations is still in progress. We have learned that the purpose of the meeting is to exchange the documents in the four languages — Arabic, Hebrew, French, and English. We have also learned that the date for signing the proposed agreement will be announced at the end of today's meeting.

Until seeing the official text, which President al-Jumayyil has promised to publish in full, it might be appropriate to ask now whether it was possible to achieve a better agreement than the proposed draft agreement? An answer to this question, of course, lacks many factors, most important of which is the fact that we do not know exactly what the points in the proposed agreement are, although President Amin al-Jumayyil has described it as an updated copy of the armistice agreement. However, we know that this proposed agreement remains within the framework of the three redlines that the government said it would not accept being traversed. They are the sovereignty of Lebanon, the unity of its people and its affiliation to its environment.

Official and press circles and, undoubtedly, popular circles in Lebanon believe that the difficult factors which governed the stand of the Lebanese Government in Lebanon did not facilitate at all the task of the Lebanese negotiator, because when he sits opposite his opponent, the negotiator places all his cards in the hands of this opponent — the military forces, economic forces, popular forces, and others. The Lebanese negotiator, however, almost went to the negotiations empty handed. He went to these negotiations when the country, as President al-Jumayyil put it, was devastated, its economy nonexistent, and all the landmarks of its capital had vanished.

The Arab situation was not a card in the hand of the Lebanese negotiator because of the absence of Arab coordination and accord. The international situation and the conflict between the two giants over their strategic interests are not in the interests of the Arab world. It is necessary, under all circumstances, to take all these factors into consideration to understand the difficult achievement which the proposed draft agreement accomplishes. It guarantees the elimination of the occupation of our territory and permits us to build a new independence and absolute sovereignty over all our lands in order that Lebanon may resume its civilized role in the Middle East and be in solidarity with its Arab brethren, as President al-Jumayyil said.

Kimche, Tamir Comment

NC131025 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0816 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] The final session of the tripartite negotiations in Netanya, which began at around 0930 today, is still in progress. We now go directly to our team there for a report:

[Begin live telephone dispatch] The session of the three delegations is still in progress at the Dan Hotel in Netanya. Prior to the convening of the session, a dialogue took place between a reporter of the Voice of Lebanon Radio, colleague Claude Abu Nadir, and the head of the Israeli delegation, Dr David Kimche, and some members of the delegation on the themes of today's discussions and on other topics.

When asked about the date of the withdrawal, Kimche answered: Get the Syrians out of your country. He added: As fast as they will be in withdrawing, we will also be as fast as they are [biqadri ma humm yusri'una bil insihab, nahnu nusri'u kadhalik].

He was asked: What do you mean by your answer?

Kimche answered: We hope that the Syrians will withdraw under pressure from world public opinion. We also have a great hope that they will withdraw.

Kimche was asked: If they do not withdraw by diplomatic means, by what should they withdraw?

Kimche answered: I will not answer this question.

At this point, Kimche was interrupted by delegation member General Tamir, who said: We will get them out with kisses.

Tamir was asked: Does this mean ousting them with bombs?

He did not comment, but he gave a nod and laughed.General (Enan) was then asked about the possibility of the outbreak of an Israeli-Syrian war. He answered: There has never been a war between us and the Syrians; only battles have taken place from time to time.

You will now hear a recording of the dialogue that took place among colleague Claude, Kimche and Tamir: [recording indistinct due to considerable background noise]

Member of the U.S. delegation Christopher Ross said: Our session will comprise all the details. We will achieve the preparation of the final draft agreement. Concerning the date of the draft agreement, Ross affirmed that a date for the signing will be set today.

For his part, the official spokesman of the Lebanese delegation, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, confirmed the statement of Christopher Ross, noting that the date for the signing session will be set today.[end dispatch]

Pazner Comments

NC131111 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 13 May 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry delegation at Dan Hotel in Netanya — live]

Text] Today's session, which is dedicated to a reading of the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement, is still meeting at the Dan Hotel in Netanya, where the members of the meeting delegations are continuing their discussions of the various details with a view to completing the draft agreement in its final form and fixing an appropriate date for signing it.

A reliable source has stated that an atmosphere of serious work tinged with optimism prevails in the meeting hall. The source said that the draft agreement has reached the semifinal phase. We asked the source what results the agreement will have — results that will have positive effects for Lebanon and serve the aspirations of the Lebanese Government and people for safeguarding the homeland's sovereignty and achieving withdrawals from all Lebanese territory. The source replied: Today's session is one of the most important sessions ever held to ensure the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and, consequently, achieve and establish sovereignty over every inch of the homeland's territory, since an appropriate date will be fixed today for signing the draft agreement now that the details have been transcended and the draft agreement is to be submitted to the quarters concerned.

The source added that the Lebanese negotiating delegation is adhering to the salvation adventure, which is led by His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, to end the tragedy in which Lebanon and its people have wallowed for many years, and he said that the phase through which Lebanon is passing as one of the phases which Lebanon and the Arab world have experienced, confident that the key to peace in the Arab world is the Lebanese crisis, as His Excellency President al-Jumayyil has asserted.

The reliable source said that the Lebanese negotiating delegation is working with determination to fullfil the resolve which his excellency the president of the Lebanese Republic has declared to remove the occupation from our territory, to build a new independence, and to establish absolute sovereignty over all our territory.

It is worth noting that there is a large crowd of journalists at today's session — a matter that confirms the importance of the phase reached in the draft agreement.

Official Israel Spokesman Avi Pazner is now giving information about the session. Our colleague will now give you a report on this:

In fact, the spokesman for the Israeli delegation, Avi Pazner, has just concluded a press conference during which he spoke in English and gave an opinion as to what has thus far taken place during the meeting. He said that the head of the Israeli delegation, David Kimche, spoke at the outset of the meeting. He said that the two countries — Lebanon and Israel — are standing at the threshold of a phase during which the state of war will end and both countries will respect the sovereignty, borders, and geographical integrity of the other.

Kimche said that this is not a day of jubilation, but a day on which we remember those who fell on the northern borders, adding that the question is whether Lebanon will be able to check infiltration across the Lebanese borders. Kimche said at the meeting: This is a question of mutual interest because it means that Lebanon will be able to have all foreign forces withdrawn from Lebanon.

Pazner said that Dr Antoine Fattal, head of the Lebanese delegation, replied to Kimche's address by saying: In these circumstances, we have a reasonable and acceptable agreement. Dr Fattal said that he hopes the Lebanese Government will be able to regain its authority completely over all Lebanese territory after this agreement.

The head of the U.S. delegation, Ambassador Draper, congratulated Lebanon and Israel on this accomplishment. He told the conferees that when he left for Cairo on the eve of Shultz's visit, he reviewed the agreement with Shultz in Cairo and that the U.S. secretary said that the agreement is strong and good.

After that, the conferees split into three groups. Most of them began reading the draft agreement. The second group of conferees, which is a military group, began examining the maps to ascertain the correctness of the lines and boundaries which will be subjected to some military arrangements, such as observation and other things. The third group has begun studying the French and English texts. In fact, the Israeli spokesman revealed an important point in the draft agreement — that the French and English texts of the agreement are the ones that are binding. In other words, the Arabic and Hebrew texts are not binding.

Therefore, the third group has begun studying the French text and will study the English text later. The Israeli spokesman has promised to meet with us again at 1400 or 1500. My colleague would like to talk to you now.

Therefore, that has been the information which the official Israeli spokesman, Avi Pazner, has given about today's session.

Pazner on Text Study

NC131240 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1204 GMT 13 May 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry mission at Dan Hotel in Netanya — live]

[Text] This is the Information Ministry Mission again from Netanya: A Lebanese delegation member told us a short while ago that the meeting that will be held here in Netanya on Sunday will be confined to certain members to make a comparison between the two texts of the draft agreements in French and Arabic. As we reported earlier, the delegation members are now having a working lunch. Israeli delegation spokesman Avi Pazner is now speaking. Our colleague in the information mission will now report to you on Pazner's statement:

The Israeli spokesman is now speaking in French following his statement in English. He has said: We have finished today's talks and reviewed the agreement. We have studied the English text and begun to study the French text of the proposed agreement. We cannot continue our work today because the Lebanese delegation will return to Lebanon, and in a short while it will be the evening before Saturday.

Pazner added: We will continue our discussion of the French text of the agreement on Sunday morning to make sure that there is no contradiction or misunderstanding, because the English and French texts are binding. He said that the meeting will be held at 0900 on Sunday in Netanya. If we complete our meeting and what we must complete on Sunday, perhaps we may decide on the date of the signing of the proposed agreement.

Problem Over French Text

NC131237 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1120 GMT 13 May 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry mission at Dan Hotel in Netanya — live]

[Text] The new factor that has developed is that the three negotiating delegations have discovered a difference between the French and English texts — a difference that requires much study. For this reason, it has been said that there is a possibility that another meeting will be held in Netanya on Sunday. We have learned that the delegations will provide us with more information about 30 minutes from now.

As-Sayigh Details Agreement

NC131132 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0954 GMT 13 May 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry mission at Dan Hotel in Netanya — live]

[Text] Contrary to what my colleague said a short while ago, it is the text of the English version of the draft agreement that has been studied. The delegations are now reading the text of the French version. The Arabic and Hebrew texts will be exchanged.

A few minutes ago, the official spokesman of the Lebanese delegation, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, said that today's session is the final session in the negotiations. He said that the draft agreement was concluded under conditions honorable to Lebanon. Let us listen to Dr as-Sayigh:

[Begin As-Sayigh recording] Today's session is the final session in the negotiations. It was devoted to the comparison of the texts in the four languages of the draft agreement. So far, the English text of the draft has been read. The French text will be read shortly. The Arabic and Hebrew texts will be exchanged.

An atmosphere of ending a period of hard and long work permeated today's session. Reaching an agreement is a natural result of the negotiations. Lebanon has chosen negotiations as a peaceful way for resolving disputes and as a means to achieve the withdrawals and evacuation. The alternative to negotiations is force and war. The agreement that has been negotiated was concluded under conditions honorable to Lebanon.

The leader of the Lebanese delegation today said that this balanced and reasonable agreement achieves two basic things for Lebanon — withdrawal of the foreign forces and respect for Lebanese sovereignty. He said he hoped that this agreement will secure this sovereignty and that President Amin al-Jumayyil will be able to impose Lebanese authority throughout Lebanon.

In the meantime, he [word indistinct] the fears connected with the implementation which might be more difficult than the negotiations. The leader of the Lebanese delegation also expressed his gratitude to and appreciation of the U.S. efforts in this regard.

We can say that the draft agreement, which will be ratified in draft form today and which will be ready for signing, is characterized by the following main points:

1. It ensures the total Israeli withdrawal.

2. It creates a 6-month transitional period which begins immediately upon the completion of the total withdrawal and until the Lebanese Government restores its full sovereignty over Lebanese territory.

3. It ends the state of war between the two countries and replaces the armistice agreement.

4. It provides for security measures in the south, some of which are temporary, under the full supervision of Lebanon's civilian and military authorities.

5. It establishes a tripartite Lebanese-American-Israeli committee to supervise the implementation and provide interpretations when necessary. [End As-Sayigh recording]

This was the statement of the official spokesman of the Lebanese delegation, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, on today's session.

The Information Ministry mission will provide you with everything new. Back to our studios in Beirut.

As-Sayigh on Implementation, Syria

NC131136 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1020 GMT 13 May 83

[Report by Lebanese Information Ministry mission at Dan Hotel Netanya — live]

[Text] We have learned from sources of the Lebanese delegation that work has been distributed to three committees. The Arabic (?text) of the proposed agreement is being studied in a mini-committee in which Ambassador Ibrahim Kharma is the Lebanese member. The French text is being studied by a committee in which Lebanon is represented by Nabil Mi'mar. A study of the maps is being made in a committee in which Lebanon is represented by Brigadier General Hamdan.

We point out at this juncture that the spokesman for the Lebanese delegation, Dr Dawud as-Sayigh, replied to journalists' questions following the statement which he made and which we reported a short time ago.

Asked if the question of the clarifications has ended, Dr as-Sayigh said: Everything that is related to the clarifications has been clarified. Asked what difficulties are expected to arise during the implementation phase, Dr as-Sayigh said: The implementation is known [as heard], and what is happening now is related to negotiations, texts, and agreements. We hope that the implementation will not be difficult. As I said, the head of the delegation has hinted at the possibility of difficulties in implementation.

Asked if there is anything new in the Syrian stand, Dr as-Sayigh said: The Syrian stand is being dealt with at the required political level, and we hope that things will be smooth in the interest of everyone. Asked if the agreement will be initialled today, Dr as-Sayigh said: All the required constitutional procedures will be carried out in accordance with principles related to international agreements and with respect for the constitutional provisions of every country.

Voice of Lebanon Dispatch

NC130906 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0720 GMT 13 May 83

[Report by Voice of Lebanon team from Netanya — live]

[Text] This is the Voice of Lebanon team speaking to you live from Netanya.

The penultimate round of the Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations has now begun, that is, at 0920 , in the Dan Netanya Hotel. It is possible to say that this is the last time that [the negotiations will be held] in Netanya, because the coming session for the signing of the agreement will be held in Khaldah and in Qiryat Shemona on the same day — on Tuesday.

The Lebanese and the U.S. delegations arrived at 0830 in Netanya, and meetings have been held among the three delegations. I leave it to my colleague Joseph to talk to you about today's round.

[Joseph] A member of the Lebanese delegation has said that Lebanese and Israeli delegations will exchange the documents written in Hebrew, while the Israeli delegation in turn will hand out the documents In Arabic and French.

The source added that the agreement will be signed on the same day in Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona. Thus, the Israeli delegation will go to Khaldah to sign, and then it will go with the Lebanese delegation by helicopter to Qiryat Shemona for the same purpose.

Another member of the Lebanese delegation has disclosed that secret contacts and meetings have been taking place since the first day of the Lebanese-Israel negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union on the situation in Lebanon to facilitate termination of the crisis. However, these contacts have not yielded encouraging results.

It has also been learned that the documents that will be exchanged today are based on the Lebanese text, which has won the approval and admiration of U.S. presidential envoy Ambassador Philip Habib. A member of the Lebanese delegation said it is imperative that the delegation carry written authorization by the president of the republic or by the foreign minister to sigh the agreement. It is possible for the prime minister to act on behalf of the foreign minister in giving this authorization. Members of the Lebanese delegation have determined that the agreement will be considered ratified from the date on which it will be published [as heard] by the president of the republic.

In another development, the Israeli Knesset will resume next Monday the debate on the text of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Prime Minister Menahem Begin has asked the Israeli delegation not to sign any agreement today, except when the Knesset concludes its debate on this draft [al-mashru'] agreement [phrase as heard].

Our colleagues Claude and Vicky are now in the conference room, and they are talking to David Kimche. We will be with you to provide you with the text of the interview that head of the Israeli delegation David Kimche has granted to our two colleagues, Claude and Vicky.

[Begin English] Good morning. Here we are in Qiryat, in no, sorry, [laughter] Netanya. The [Lebanese] delegation arrived at 0830. All are present and accounted for. The meeting has just begun. According to the head of the Lebanese delegation, Antoine Fattal, a signing will not be made today, but rather the final exchange of the text — Hebrew and French and Arabic. A final look and study of this text will be made today before its ratification by the Lebanese and Israeli Governments.

Political observers are optimistic that everything will run as scheduled and [report briefly interrupted at this point and music is played]. A start has being [as heard] in the peace efforts. According to Israeli leaders, once the draft is signed, an Israeli withdrawal will only occur once Syrian forces have agreed to retreat from Lebanon. According to the president of the Israeli delegation, Kimche, he said: We hope that they will leave, that the pressure of world opinion will get Syria out. We feel that [words indistinct] that they will leave.

American Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger voiced his optimism concerning the draft approval by all parties and sees no problem with Syria who, he says, will in the end come around and accept the draft and retreat from Lebanese territory.

A lot of movement is seen here today. The hotel's lobby is filled with reporters eager to see the final results of today's meeting. Tune in all day today for on-the-spot glimpses [words indistinct] here in Netanya in the three languages of English, French, and Arabic.

Cabinet To Delay Approval Of Agreement

NC122024 Paris AFP in English 2015 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Beirut, May 12 (AFP) — The Lebanese Cabinet decided at a special session here tonight to delay approval of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement for the withdrawal of foreign troops from the country.

A communique issued after two and a half hours of discussions indicated that the ministers had decided to prolong their examination of the proposed accord and their consideration of detailed information supplied by U.S. Middle East envoy Philip Habib.

Mr. Habib has been shuttling between Jerusalem and Beirut for the last few days, seeking to clarify issues raised by the Israelis in respect to the agreement.

The Cabinet met in the absence of Foreign Minister Elie Salim, who went to Damascus today to inform the Syrian Government of the terms of the accord.

Syria has denounced the document as a "contract of submission" and has said that it will not accept it.

The Israelis have made simultaneous withdrawal of Syrian and Palestinian forces a fundamental condition for their implementation of the agreement's terms.

Source Comments on Salim's Talks in Damascus

NC130754 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] In Damascus, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim will today resume his meetings with Syrian leaders to continue the discussion of the draft agreement. He will convey a message from President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil to President Hafiz al-Asad.

Upon his arrival in Damascus yesterday, Minister Salim met with his Syrian counterpart 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Government leaders hope that Minister Salim will return from Damascus today with good results that will end the Syrian rejection of or objection to the agreement on the basis, according to a diplomatic source, that the Lebanese move regarding the draft agreement with Israel stems from the tenacity of the internal stand, because when all the Lebanese agree on a stand, others should also agree to it and not oppose it, especially since the Chamber of Deputies and all the politicians unanimously support the government in its stand.

The same diplomatic source pointed out that national unity, which is now manifested in the best manner, will be employed in diplomatic moves to gain the support of the friendly states. The source added that if what is happening in Lebanon were a civil war, no state would have had the right to offer its help. Otherwise, that state would appear as if it were interfering in Lebanon's internal affairs, because, according to international law, no state can interfere in the domestic affairs of another state.

The source concluded by saying that the interest of the United Nations, the Security Council, the major powers, the Arab League, and the friendly states in the Lebanese issue virtually means that it is not an internal issue.

Salim Meets Khaddam

NC130946 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim is continuing his talks with Syrian officials in Damascus to reach an understanding that will result in the withdrawal of the Syrian and Palestinian forces from Lebanese territory.

At 0900 today, Minister Salim held a second meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The meeting was attended, on the Syrian side, by Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Faruq ash-Shar'. On the Lebanese side, it was attended by Colonel Sa'id al-Qa'qur. Minister Salim is expected to meet later with President Hafiz al-Asad.

Beirut on Syrian Rejection

NC131220 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim is continuing his talks in Damascus on the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon, seeking to reach an understanding that will result in the withdrawal of the Syrian and Palestinian forces from the Lebanese territory.

At noon today, Minister Salim met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in the presence of Ministers Khaddam and Faruq ash-Shar and Lebanese Colonel Sa'id al-Qa'qur. Earlier this morning, Minister Salim held a long round of talks with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The talks were attended on the Lebanese side by Col Sa'id al-Qa'qur and on the Syrian side by Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Faruq ash-Shar'.

REUTER has quoted Minister Khaddam as having said that the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement is rejected in form and substance by Syria.

Reports of the Syrian capital have said that PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Damascus from Tunis early today accompanied by Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad). It is not known if this

sudden visit to the Syrian capital is related to the talks which Minister Salim is holding with the officials there on the withdrawal of the Syrian and Palestinian forces from Lebanon.

Khuri, Callaghan Discuss UNIFIL Status in South
NC121018 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The status and future of the UN forces in southern Lebanon was the topic of talks held this morning between Defense Minister 'Isam Khuri and UNIFIL commander General William Callaghan, his political adviser and some of his aides. The meeting was held as a result of the progress achieved in the Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations to discuss what role can be given to these forces following the expected signing of the agreement. Minister Khuri agreed with Gen Callaghan on the need for continuing the meetings to watch the progress in the agreement and to define the task of the UN emergency forces.

Deputies' Term, Government Powers Extended
NC121257 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1225 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies has approved extending the period of the extraordinary powers of the government and extending the term of the Chamber of Deputies.

From Mansur Palace, we have on the telephone our correspondent Marun Hubayqah:

[Begin Hubayqah] The Chamber of Deputies today unanimously approved 13 bills on its agenda. It also approved by a majority a bill aimed at extending the term of the Chamber of Deputies until the end of 1984.

Also approved was a bill providing for extending the period of the extraordinary powers granted to the government until 30 September 1983. The Chamber deferred the discussion of two bills and referred them to the appropriate committees. We will provide you later with the detailed proceedings of the session. [end Hubayqah]

VOL Says External Communications Still Cut
NC131236 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1228 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] The satellite transmission station in the township of Al-'Urbaniyah is still inoperative, as it has been for well over 72 hours. Earlier, the Syrians cut communications between Lebanon and the outside world and turned the station's perimeter into a 106-mm [as heard] artillery emplacement.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Arrives 12 May

JN121750 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1742 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim arrived in Damascus at 1900 today on a visit to Syria. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Misbah ad-Dalati, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, welcomed him at at the airport.

Khaddam Meets With Salim

JN121832 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim at 1915 this evening. They discussed the current situation in Lebanon.

Dr Salim arrived in Damascus at 1900 this evening. He was received at the airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry.

Syria, Lebanon Resume Talks

JN130731 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0715 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] At 0900 in Damascus today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Elie Salim, Lebanese foreign minister, resumed their talks. Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad and Faruq Ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, attended the talks on the Syrian side. On the Lebanese side, Colonel Sa'id Qa'qur attended.

Al-Asad Receives Salim

JN131011 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] A short while ago, following extensive talks between the Syrian and Lebanese foreign ministers, President Hafiz al-Asad received Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim. Salim arrived in Damascus yesterday to brief Syrian officials on the various aspects of the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement.

Syria 'Totally Rejects' Agreement

JN131125 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1105 GMT 13 May 83

[Telephone dispatch by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris — recorded]

[Text] Following the second round of official talks this morning between Ministers 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Dr Elie Salim, which lasted about 3 hours, an official Syrian source told our radio that Syria totally rejects the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement. The spokesman added that the draft agreement encroaches on Lebanon's sovereignty, security, and independence; (?revokes) Lebanon's Arab commitments; and harms Syrian security, Syrian national interests, and pan-Arab security.

The Syrian and Lebanese ministers are now meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad. We will inform you of the results of the meeting when it is over.

Further On Agreement Rejection

JN131249 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 13 May 83

[Telephone dispatch by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris — recorded]

[Excerpts] Syria strongly and totally rejects the Lebanese- Israeli draft agreement. An official Syrian source told our radio this following the 3-hour second round of official talks between Ministers 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Elie Salim.

During the two rounds of talks, the sides conducted a thorough study of the provisions of the final draft agreement between Lebanon and Israel, which Dr Salim brought to Damascus at the instructions of President Amin al-Jumayyil. The official source added that this draft agreement encroaches on Lebanon's sovereignty and security, revokes Lebanon's Arab commitments, and harms Syrian security, Syrian national interests, and pan-Arab security.

The official reiterated that the agreement is a contract of submission imposed on Lebanon by Israel and the United States, violates international law, logic, and UN Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509, and rewards Israel for its invasion of Lebanon.

Three hours ago, President Hafiz al-Asad received Dr Elie Salim in the presence of Ministers 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Faruq ash-Shar', as well as Colonel Qa'qur. The meeting was still in progress when this news bulletin was prepared.

Yesterday, President al-Asad sent his closest military aide, Major General Muhammad al-Khuli, to northern Lebanon, where he met with former President Sulayman Franjiyah and former Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

In another development, Syrian Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm has described the draft agreement as a contract of occupation.

Official Syrian sources have declined to comment on the report that was published in banner headlines in the pro-Syrian Beirut newspaper ASH-SHARQ to the effect that Franjiyah, Karami, Junblatt, and leaders of some parties will form a national front tomorrow to deal with various political and security developments.

I hope to furnish you with further details on the meeting still in progress between President al-Asad and Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, which seems to be ending now.

Salim Departs; Talks Fail

JN131321 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 May 83

[Telephone dispatch by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris — live]

[Text] After about 3 hours of talks with President Hafiz al-Asad and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Dr Elie Salim left Damascus airport a short while ago with a gloomy face.

I have learned that during the meeting, President al-Asad stressed Syria's total rejection of the draft agreement, which the Syrian president considered an agreement imposed on and dictated to the Lebanese side by the United States and Israel. The president added that the agreement encroaches on Lebanon's sovereignty and independence, subjugates it to Israeli-imperialist domination, and constitutes a danger to Syria's national security and the Arab nation's pan-Arab security. It also endangers the Lebanese people's real national interests.

I have also learned that President al-Asad has reaffirmed Syria's support for the Lebanese people's efforts to safeguard their independence and territorial integrity as well as for the Lebanese people's rejection of the Israeli domination and their adherence to their Arab affiliation and real pan-Arab rights.

TISHRIN on Draft Agreement, Withdrawals

JN130839 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0805 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 13 May (SANA) — In today's commentary, TISHRIN emphasizes that Syria's ceaseless rejection of Shultz' draft agreement stems from the pan-Arab eagerness to preserve Lebanon and the Arab nation. The paper adds that the agreement is a grotesque image of the Camp David accords intended to drive another Arab country, after Egypt, into the quagmire of capitulation and open the door wide for other sides which have been propagandizing for Reagan's liquidatory plan and encouraging the Lebanese regime to hastily sign the agreement on the pretext of defending Lebanon.

TISHRIN affirms that Syria was not alone in opposing the draft agreement. The Lebanese Nationalist Movement, through its parties and figures, unveiled the agreement's hostile essence against Lebanon and the Arabs and demanded that Al-Jumayyil's government reject submission to U.S. pressures. The movement highly praised Syria's bold national stance.

Continuing, TISHRIN says that some Arab rulers, instead of supporting the Syrian position and defending the Lebanese position, had called for the Syrian forces' withdrawal and defended the agreement, which serves Israel and its covetous designs and ignores the Arabs' rights and interests.

In conclusion, TISHRIN says that Syria is determined to uphold its position, unintimidated by U.S. threats or Israel's provocative acts. When Syria declares it will not withdraw its forces from Lebanon, it does so out of concern over Lebanon and to abort the U.S.-Zionist plan which aims to drive Syria away from its Arab course and natural environment. Syria will certainly remain the nation's throbbing heart and vigilant guard with its finger on the trigger in defense of land and dignity.

Radio on Israeli Military Buildup in Al-Biqa'

JN130600 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Beirut — The invading Zionist forces continue to reinforce positions along the contact lines in Lebanon's Al-Biqa'. The Zionist forces have brought in a large number of heavy Centurion and Merkava tanks. Reports from Beirut said that Israeli bulldozers have been spotted digging bunkers in the Kfar Mishki triangle in Al-Biqa'. Furthermore, the invading forces have erected sophisticated radar, eavesdropping, and monitoring equipment on the Al-Baruk-Dahr al-Baydar front, and have deployed long-range heavy artillery emplacements and rocket launchers.

Damascus Broadcast Discusses War Possibilities

JN121838 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 May 83

[Palestine Broadcast: "Talk of the Return"]

[Text] Brother strugglers, the question strongly posed now is: War or no war? We will not ask the question: War or peace? This is because peace cannot be achieved without justice, and justice will not exist as long as Arab rights are violated, and, in fact, usurped. Therefore, the question is: War or no war?

If we were to speculate, it would take us more than 2 hours to cite the statements that say war is likely. It would also take us the same length of time to cite statements that say war is unlikely. What we want to say is that war or no war cannot be predicted on the basis of statements by Sharon, Begin, or George Shultz. These statements may serve as indicators, but they cannot give a definite answer.

The answer lies in the facts on the ground. The first of these facts is that Arab rights are still usurped by Israel. The second is that the United States still strongly backs Israeli usurpation of Arab rights. The United States has not changed its policy in this respect as indicated by the proposition of the Reagan plan, which usurps Arab rights, and the Shultz plan, which threatens Arab national security through the subjugation of Lebanon.

These facts neither create peace nor silence guns. This is because there can be no talk of peace with the existence of coercion. But for these facts to turn into a state of war or no war, they require two types of fuel: The first is moral, which is the feeling of one party that it has suffered an injustice and must reject this state of injustice. The second is material, which is the availability of weapons to both sides; the party that has inflicted the injustice and the party that has suffered the injustice, and the feeling of the unjust party that the inflicted party has the necessary weapons to remove the injustice.

These moral and material fuels exist. The Arabs feel that the United States is being unjust to them for the sake of Israel. The

Arabs reject this unfair deal. The United States and Israel feel that Syria can release Arab resources and use them in the right place; that is, in removing the Israeli-U.S. injustice against the Arab nation. This means that war is a strong possibility, whether it is started by an Arab initiative to remove the injustice against the Arab nation, or by an Israeli aggression against Syria to prevent it from taking this initiative to remove the injustice against the Arabs.

War, therefore, is a strong possibility. But, is it a probability [ihtimal muakkad)? We, or anyone else in the media, cannot confirm or deny this. But we can definitely say that the continuation of this state of injustice to the Arabs is impossible. These are the facts. If we have to back them with indicators, we will simply cite one indicator; namely, the statement of Israeli Chief of Staff Moshe Levi in which he said that the Israeli army is ready for all possibilities. What the Israeli Chief of staff said represents only half the truth. The other half, or rather the first half, is that Syria is also ready for all possibilities.

Lebanon's Junblatt on Damascus Contacts

JN122005 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 12 May (SANA) — Walid Junblatt, leader of the [Lebanese] Progressive Socialist Party, has announced that the agreement Washington is trying to impose on Lebanon gives the Israeli aggressors security, political, and economic privileges that undermine Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and pan-Arab affiliation.

In a statement after meetings he held with the leaders of the national Lebanese parties in Damascus, and contacts he held with the Syrian officials throughout the past 2 days, Junblatt wondered why Lebanon has moved back to the armistice agreement and the UN Security Council resolutions since official Lebanon has not entered the war.

Junblatt added that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is unjustifiable. He said that giving Israel the right to take part in joint patrols with the Lebanese Army in the south and considering Sa'd Haddad a representative of the legitimate government are the most dangerous parts of the agreement. He feared that (?Israel's) real security, economic, and political ambitions will subsequently emerge. He called on the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies to adhere to its role in preserving Lebanon's full sovereignty and independence.

Concluding, Junblatt stressed the need to realize a Lebanese national accord in order to restore sovereignty and independence. He appealed to all people who care for Lebanon's unity to rise to the level of the historic responsibility by which the country's unity is decided.

PLO's Abd al-Mushin Praises Syria at Rally

JN130751 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Damascus — PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd al-Muhsin(Abu Mayzar) has highly commended Syria's firm and tenacious position toward the Arabs' central issue — Palestine — and its rejection of all imperialist-Zionist designs that are meant to subdue the Arab nation and control its fate.

Addressing a rally held by the Palestinian Friendship Society Union With the Peoples, marking the victory over fascism, Abu Mayzar stressed the unity of objectives and destiny for which steadfast Syria, the Palestinian revolution, and the Lebanese National Movement are struggling, depending on the support of the Arab revolutionary forces and the world progressive forces, led by the friendly Soviet Union.

Other speeches were delivered on behalf of the Palestinian Friendship Society Union and the GDR and Soviet Embassies in Damascus. Speakers affirmed that the struggle against neo-fascism, represented by Zionism, has become an urgent task for all peoples suffering from the oppression and persecution of U.S. imperialism and Zionism.

The speakers condemned the U.S.-backed Zionist threats against Syria, which is proudly and loftily standing at the forefront against the Zionist aggressors. They also condemned the U.S.-sponsored draft agreement between Lebanon and Israel, stressing that this agreement jeopardizes Lebanon's sovereignty, unity, independence, and Arabism.

Morocco's Ould Sidi Baba Arrives With Message

JN112055 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Dey Ould Sidi Baba, speaker of the Moroccan Chamber of Representatives and Chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union, arrived in Damascus at 2100 tonight at the head of a parliamentary delegation on a 4-day visit to the country. The visit comes at the invitation of People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi.

Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi and PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum led those who welcomed the Moroccan delegation at the airport.

Speaking to a SANA correspondent, Ould Baba said he brings a written message from King Hassan II to President Hafiz al-Asad. He spoke highly of our country's militant stands, stressing that Syria has always been loyal to its Arabism and struggle and remained steadfast in the face of Zionist aggression against Arab nations.

Khaddam Receives Ould Baba

JN121646 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 12 May (SANA) — 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this afternoon received Dey Ould Sidi Baba, speaker of the Moroccan Chamber of Representatives and chairman of the Arab Parliamentary Union. The talks dealt with the current Arab situation.

Parliamentary Talks Begin

JN121946 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] At 1730 this evening, a session of talks was held between the People's Assembly delegation led by Mahmud az-Zu'bi and the Moroccan Chamber of Representatives delegation led by Dey Ould Sidi Baba.

People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi welcomed the head and members of the delegation and expressed the hope that the visit would lead to the strengthening and deepening of parliamentary relations between the two fraternal countries.

Az-Zu'bi praised the heroism of Moroccan participation in the Tishrin [October] War of liberation. He said that such heroism recorded a brilliant page in the history of Arab struggle, embodied the common Arab destiny, and contributed to the defense of Arab rights and existence. He stressed the importance of joint coordination between the two countries in the parliamentary field, particularly during the Arab nation's current crucial situation.

Afterward, the People's Assembly speaker reviewed all aspects of the situation in the Arab region affirming that Syria, under President Hafiz al-Asad, is determined to confront all imperialist and Zionist schemes. Az-Zu'bi noted that Syria is assuming heavy burdens, responsibilities, and sacrifices in defense of Arab dignity, honor, existence, and destiny.

Dey Ould Sidi Baba expressed thanks for the invitation that he and members of the delegation received to visit Syria, the Arab country whose glorious past and present are full of heroism and glory at all levels. He expressed his appreciation for President Hafiz al-Asad. He said: We consider President al-Asad an outstanding Arab leader, a brave and steadfast intellectual and struggler. We feel at home here in Damascus among our kinfolk and brothers, and we also feel that we have deep roots in steadfast Syria. He praised Syria's steadfastness and sacrifices under President Hafiz al-Asad, affirming Syria's inevitable triumph in the battles of construction and liberation. He wished the Syrian people further victories and achievements under their wise and brave leadership.

The talks between the Syrian People's Assembly delegation and the Moroccan Chamber of Representatives delegation dealt with bilateral parliamentary relations, the exchange of expertise, information, and visits, as well as with issues related to the Arab Parliamentary Union.

Khaddam Receives Japanese Friendship Delegation

JN121005 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this morning received (Takyo Natakani), chairman of the Japanese-Arab Friendship Society, and the accompanying delegation. Khaddam presented a detailed briefing on the current political situation in the Middle East.

Al-Kasm Addresses Delegation

JN121642 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received (Takyo Natakani), chairman of the Japanese-Arab Friendship Society, and (Minoro Emayi), the society's deputy chairman, at 1230 today. Toshio Tada, Japanese ambassador in Damascus, attended the meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting, (Natakani) conveyed Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone's greetings to Dr al-Kasm. He also expressed Japan's appreciation of Syria's important and basic role in this region. He stressed that the economic and social progress he saw in Syria during this visit indicates that the Syrian development plans have largely succeeded. He also stressed the need to develop economic cooperation between Syria and Japan.

Dr al-Kasm thanked the Japanese guest for his appreciation of Syria's role and progress and asserted that the continual meetings between the Syrians and the Japanese help bolster understanding and promote bilateral cooperation in the interest of the two peoples. He also explained Syria's position on the U.S.-backed expansionist Israeli plans, pointing out the grave situation resulting from the insistence on implementing these hostile plans. He said that the Zionist conditions in the so-called Israeli-Lebanese agreement do not render this accord a peace agreement, but an occupation agreement. He added that Syria's concern for a just peace in the region does not mean that it will not resist aggression strongly and firmly. Syria, he said, is confident that it can repulse aggression and that all the peoples and states, which are aware of the true situation in the region, stand by its side in its legitimate stand. The prime minister also stressed the importance of developing economic relations between Syria and Japan.

At the end of the meeting Dr al-Kasm asked (Natakani) to convey his greetings to Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone.

Al-Ahmar Receives Hungarian Party Delegation

JN121752 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, today received a Hungarian party delegation led by Comrade Matyas Szuros, member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] Central Committee and head of the party's Foreign Relations Department, now visiting Syria at the invitation of the Ba'th Party National Command. Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, head of the National Command information and publications bureau, and the Hungarian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

The comrade assistant secretary general talked about the strong relations between the Ba'th Party and the MSZMP and about the means to promote and strengthen these relations. Al-Ahmar dealt with the most important current political issues in the region, particularly the latest developments in Lebanon and the imperialist U.S. policy aimed at controlling the entire region through the military tool — Israel — and through the continuous pressure on Lebanon in an attempt to impose full U.S. hegemony

on this Arab country [Lebanon], which is struggling for the evacuation of the invading Zionist forces from its territory.

The comrade assistant secretary general referred to the continuous threats to commit aggression. He stressed Syria's steadfast role in confronting the imperialist schemes and rejecting all U.S. settlement plans. He said that all these stands stem from Syria's intrinsic power, the Arab nation's ability to confront the continuous Zionist aggression against the Arabs, and the support the socialist countries, headed by the USSR, are extending to our struggle against aggression for the sake of liberation, progress, evacuation of the Israeli aggressors from the occupied Arab territories, and recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable rights, particularly their right to establish their independent state under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

Comrade Al-Ahmar also affirmed Syria's rejection of the recent agreement that was worked out through Shultz' pressure on both Lebanon and Israel. This agreement, he said, is humiliating and gives advantages only to Israel. He added that Syria will confront this agreement and will not tolerate any Israeli gains harming Lebanon's sovereignty, Syria's security, and Arab interests.

At the end of the meeting, Comrade Szuros praised Syria's role and wise leadership as well as its confrontation of the imperialist and Zionist plans. He asserted that the MSZMP, and Hungary in general, support Syria's struggle and fateful issues. He added that within the framework of the socialist bloc, his country will not hesitate to offer any aid for the triumph of the just Arab cause.

Parties Sign Agreement

JN121755 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1435 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 12 May (SANA) — An agreement on party cooperation during 1983-1984 was signed here today between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, [MSZMP] in the presence of the two delegations and the Hungarian ambassador in Damascus.

Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, National Command reserve member and head of the National Command information and publications bureau, signed the agreement for the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. Comrade Matyas Szuros, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and head of the party's Foreign Relations Department, signed for the Hungarian side.

After the signing ceremony, cordial speeches were exchanged. The speeches expressed the strong friendship and cooperation between the parties in the two friendly countries, and the desire to promote this cooperation in the service of the common struggle against imperialsim, Zionism, and reaction, and to strengthen the cohesion of the forces of liberation, progress, socialism, and peace in the world.

Tripartite Talks Resume As Final Agreement Nears

Delegations Meet in Netanya

TA130711 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] The last round of talks, which will complete the agreement with Lebanon, is now opening in Netanya. Israeli, U.S., and Lebanese representatives are taking part. No official announcement has yet been published in Beirut as to whether the Lebanese Government has confirmed the agreement, but it appears that the Lebanese representatives received an order not to agree to any Israeli demand to make changes in it.

In Jerusalem, it was reported that the clarifications process regarding the agreement has not ended yet, and there is still some dispute concerning the status of Haddad.

Habib's Clarifications Examined

TA121955 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 12 May 83

[Report by Nisim Mish'al]

[Text] Jerusalem this evening sought to stress that the clarifications Ambassador Habib brought back from Lebanon satisfy Israel. Actually, no new elements have been introduced into the agreement following the clarifications; only formulations and definitions were added which lend more practical content to the various clauses.

Thus, for example, the exact locations were decided upon for the two control centers that will be in the security strip. Also, the activities of the Israeli and Lebanese supervision teams in that area were defined, beginning with joint patrols and ending with the manner of their performance.

Another matter that was decided today was where exactly will be the border of the 45 km security strip. The line that will divide the responsibility between the two brigades that will operate in the area was also decided upon: The brigade to be made up of inhabitants of southern Lebanon will be responsible for the area stretching from the Israeli border for a distance of 20 km, and the second Lebanese Army brigade will control the second part of the security strip, that is, as far as the Al-'Awwali River.

However, it appears that the main debate centers on Major Sa'd Haddad's future. Israel has decided not to conclude [lesakem] the matter of Maj Haddad's status with the Lebanese. Israel prefers Haddad be given broad authority in guarding the security strip, even without an official title, while Lebanon has agreed to grant him the title of deputy brigade commander. The differences on this matter have not yet been resolved.

What then is expected in the coming negotiations? Tomorrow the three delegations will meet to prepare the final draft of the agreement. A date for the signing ceremony, and where it will be held will also be decided tomorrow. It is estimated that the signing will take place at the beginning of next week.

It should be emphasized that in this matter the Americans are urging the Lebanese president — so it emerges from Habib's talks with Foreign Ministry leaders — to sign the agreement as quickly as possible. After the agreement is signed, the negotiations will continue between Lebanon and Syria, and Israel will then wait on the sidelines for the agreements that will be achieved, if at all.

Delegation Heads Praise Agreement

TA131012 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] At the opening of the talks in Netanya, the head of the Israeli delegation, David Kimche, said that the agreement reached with Lebanon is good and fair to all sides. The head of the Lebanese delegation, Antoine Fattal, also thinks that the agreement is good. The head of the U.S. delegation congratulated both sides.

Our correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that at the moment the discussions are being held in three working groups.

Haddad Question Not Resolved

TA121720 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The process of clarifications about the agreement between Israel and Lebanon has not ended. Our correspondent has learned that even at the last minute, the differences continue concerning Major Sa'd Haddad's status.

While Israel demands that he be granted real authority, and not just titles, Lebanon insists on making him the deputy commander of the Lebanese forces to be stationed in the southern part of the country. However, our correspondent has learned that Jerusalem hopes that this question will also be solved before the agreement is signed next week.

Military Arrangements Outlined

TA130848 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 13 May 83

[Military correspondent Hayim Ravya interviewed by announcer Ya'el Dan]

[Text] [Dan] Each of the brigades placed by the Lebanese Army in the security zone will hold about 4,500 men, in three infantry battalions, an artillery battalion, and a tank battalion. Three months after completing the evacuation, the joint supervision committee will check the arrangements [hesderim] to see how satisfactory they are. The north of Jabal al-Baruk will have the same restrictions as the security zone and no electronic intelligence infrastructure will be allowed to be built there, although the northern part of the mountain is outside the security zone. These details from the security document in the agreement with Lebanon were learned by our military correspondent Hayim Ravya. He is in the studio.

[Dan] Maybe at first you will clarify what the exact line of the security belt is between Israel and Lebanon as it was defined in the agreement?

[Ravya] On the 1:50,000 maps which will be attached to the agreement, the border of the security zone will be drawn today in Netanya. What is called in the agreement the "A" line [letter in English] is based on the Al-'Awwali; the 40-45 km line. It begins in the west, at the mouth of the Al-'Awwali. It continues east along the river, climbs Jabal al-Baruk, and cuts through the center of (Rahaka Frayya). From there it goes down to the Al-Biqa', north of Al-Qir'awn, goes near Jubb Jannin, and snakes southward to the Syrian border.

The northern part of Jabal al-Baruk is out of the security zone, but will have the same restrictions as the security zone. Israel would like no electronic infrastructure for collecting intelligence data to be established there, and the agreement forbids the building of such an infrastructure in the security zone.

In the area between the "A" line and the Israeli border, there will be two brigades of the Lebanese Army which will act to foil terrorist acts against Israel. The borderline between the two brigades is based on the Az-Zaharani, and is marked on the maps as line "B" [last letter in English], about 30 km from the Israeli border.

Appendices to the military document state the size of the brigades: 4,300 soldiers in each, and about 200 officers. They will each be composed of three infantry battalions, an artillery battalion with a limited battalion with a limited number of cannons, a tank battalion, and brigade units such as engineering. In addition to the brigades, the village guards, which the Lebanese will undertake to incorporate in guarding their settlements, will also be active in southern Lebanon, as well as police forces and the Lebanese security forces.

Another sea buffer zone, whose limits have already been established, will be established, and there will be constant contact and cooperation between the two countries' navies in order to fight terrorist acts from the sea.

[Dan] About the agreement — what about the supervision arrangements on carrying out the agreement?

[Ravya] In order to supervise the agreement there will be a joint committee whose composition has not yet been decided. Bringing more brigades into the area, for example, needs the authorization of the committee. The supervision apparatus will be active in two centers, in the air, land, and sea. The two supervision centers will be located in Hasbayya in the eastern sector and in the area of the town of An-Nabatiyah. The duty of the centers will be to control and supervise the joint patrols. These patrol units — numbering up to eight units, according to the military committee decision — will be allowed to move freely in the area. They will be briefed in the supervision centers before leaving, and interrogated in them afterwards. Every center will operate 24 hours a day, and will also be used for communications and meeting places for the joint committee. The commanders of the southern brigade, it is said in the security document, will hold frequent coordination meetings with the IDF officers, and will hold radio and telephone contacts with them. Lebanese flights over the security zone will require prior announcements to Israel for security and safety measures.

And in the end, 3 months after the completion of the withdrawal, the joint supervision committee will check the arrangements in order to see how satisfactory they are, and if there is any need to improve them.

Shamir: Debate Precedes Signing

TA130554 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] The agreement will be signed only after the debate in the Knesset. This was determined from statements made yesterday by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. Shamir appeared before an Israel Bonds delegation, and our correspondent Didi Applebaum spoke to him:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] We will hold the last meeting of the delegations. We will compare the forms [mismakhim] in four languages. This is a technical job, but quite difficult. We will receive all the clarifications, we will hear all the declarations, all as planned, and we will prepare the agreement for signing.

[Applebaum] Will the government be able to bring a signed agreement to the Knesset next Monday?

[Shamir] It will not work out this way. I do not know when it will be signed. The Knesset can end its discussions without the signed agreement because the Knesset will discuss the main points ['iqarey] of the agreement.

[Applebaum] Do we have any details on the Syrian stand? Is there any move in this direction?

[Shamir] We hear the Syrian stand from the statements of its leaders. We do not know more than that.

[Applebaum] Did we send a message to Syria?

[Shamir] We do not send messages, but Syria knows our clear stand. We want to leave Lebanon. We want them to leave as well. We want the PLO to leave. We want stability and peace to return to Lebanon. [end recording]

Further Comments From Shamir

TA121533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Today and tomorrow we will receive clarifications from Lebanon on the agreement, and I hope that the agreement will be signed, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said during a tour of Samaria today.

The details of the ceremony and the signing — and the exact date it will be held — remain to be concluded. The foreign minister was visiting Samaria today for the first time since he was appointed to office. He was accompanied by deputy Agriculture

Minister Mikha'el Deqel. Our correspondent Shalom Oren spoke to Shamir, first about settlement beyond the Green Line.

[Begin recording] [Shamir] I want to say that today there is no Green Line. That thing must be forgotten. It was something artificial, and it has been erased from political consciousness and in the field. That is a fact.

[Question] Sir, perhaps you would answer one question about Lebanon. The Lebanese have announced that tomorrow they will be initialing the agreement. What do you have to add to that?

[Answer] Of course, if they indeed sign, that will be encouraging. We will also sign. We must agree on dates, the details of the ceremony, and the signing. However, it may be presumed that the agreement will be signed.

[Question] If everything is clear, are additional clarifications needed?

[Answer] We will be receiving clarifications today. We may get some more tomorrow. In any case, we are in the concluding phase.

[Question] What about the Russians, the threats, and the Syrian deployment?

[Answer] These things exist. We are following developments. We are holding consultations and discussions, and we hope that there will be no further difficulties or hitches.

[Question] What do you mean?

[Answer] That we will be able to maintain the agreement, sign it, bring the IDF home, and see a natural development toward stability and peace.

[Question] Will the autonomy talks begin here once we have returned from Lebanon?

[Answer] At this moment, it is hard to predict political developments. However, as is known, we are ready at any time to renew the autonomy talks. [end recording]

Labor Party Wants Sharon Recalled From U.S.

TA121310 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The Labor Party Reactions Team has called on the prime minister to immediately recall Ari'el Sharon from the United States following his call to resume the war in Lebanon. The Labor Party's announcement says that the proposal of the war's architect is a meaningless notion, and is further proof of the anarchy within the Likud government.

Our correspondent Asher Schwartz reports that the announcement adds that the main opposition in Israel keeps its arguments at home, whereas Sharon saw fit to attack in the United States a government of which he is a member, and whose decisions he is compelled to accept.

IDF Soldier Killed by Shooting From Syrian Zone

TA121348 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1343 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The IDF spokesman has announced that an IDF soldier was killed last night when light arms were fired from Syrian-controlled territory in Lebanon at an IDF position in the area of Al-Mansurah, in the eastern sector. The victim's family has been notified.

HA'ARETZ Sees No Immediate Danger of Syrian War

TA121204 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 May 83 p 9

[Commentary by military correspondent Ze'ev Schiff: "Sounds of War"]

[Text] Once again there are sounds of war. This time, it evokes an unpleasant association with the Yom Kippur war. We speak of the departure of the families of Soviet diplomats from Beirut. A similar event took place on the eve of the Yom Kippur war. Two days before the war, Russian planes arrived in Cairo and Damascus and began loading the women and children of the diplomats' families, as well as the families of the Russian advisers who were serving in Egypt and Syria. Many of them were carrying small suitcases, indicating that they were leaving in a hurry.

That evacuation constituted a worrisome sign, and many started to doubt that the intelligence officials' appeasing words were well-founded. As far as intelligence officials were concerned, the departure of the diplomats' families did not change a thing. They insisted on their previous assessment that a war was not in the offing. As recalled, this position did not change until the very last minute when the offensive began on both fronts.

Is this affair recurring in 1983? This time the picture seems somewhat spectacular. The Russians know that such a move shows that something serious is to be expected. So why should they arouse the attention of the other side and foil their ally? The first to gloat over this issue were the Christians in Lebanon, and Radio Free Lebanon in particular. The latter has always been notorious for its tendentious reports designed to incite Israel to fight Syria. In the course of time they have "introduced" hundreds of Syrian surface-to-air missiles and armored divisions into Lebanon. This time, it rushed to announce that Russian families would be evacuated from both Jordan and Syria, and that the evacuation would expand to the entire Middle East.

The next day it transpired that no evacuation was taking place in Jordan and Syria. The Russian ambassador in Lebanon hastened to announce that the families were departing on their summer vacation. These reports did not at all calm down tempers because contradictory reports have for some time been emanating from Syria: both sounds of war and soothing sounds at the same time. While the families are leaving Beirut, it is known that Russian advisers and experts continue to arrive in Syria [blank passage presumably omitted by censorship]

Sounds are heard from the Christian and Arab side saying that war is a sure thing, and that Syria will make some kind of move

soon. Western and U.S. sources say they have no proof to this effect, although they do not rule out the possibility of a sudden deterioration of the situation.

An atmosphere of war prevails in Syria. There is talk about war, and various civilian preparations are underway. It is known for a fact that the Syrian rule has for several months not been discharging soldiers who completed their military service, and is also holding thousands of reservists. The postponement of discharges has increased manpower in the Syrian Army to some 400,000 men. Army units continue training designed to refresh [several words presumably omitted by censorship] all the battalions in Lebanon and the Golan Heights.

At the same time, new units are being established according to the lessons of the war in Lebanon. These include armored and artillery units [blank passage presumably omitted by censorship]. In the frontlines there are no signs indicating that an extended war is to be expected soon. Entrenchment works are underway [several words presumably omitted by censorship] as well as various patrols, but this is not only characteristic of the Syrian side. Similar work is also carried out on our side, for the Syrians to see.

It is hard to infer from all this that the Syrians will initiate a war in the near future. The first wave of reports about war began toward the onset of spring. It was then said that Syria was overly self-confident, and that it might carry out a limited military move in Al-Biqa' in order to restore to its army the prestige it lost in the war, as well as to acquire a better opening position in the negotiations over the evacuation of all the armies from Lebanon.

The second wave of reports, which was to be expected, began immediately after it became known that Israel and Lebanon were about to sign an agreement. It was obvious that Damascus would begin exerting pressure on Lebanon to abstain from signing an agreement which includes achievements for Israel. This is the backdrop against which one must take the shelling of the Ash-Shuf mountains and the eastern quarters of Beirut. If the evacuation of Russian families from Beirut carries a spectacular meaning, then it is directed first and foremost toward Lebanon rather than Israel.

Syria and Lebanon have entered a war of nerves. This stage can also be dangerous to the relationship between Israel and Syria. However, if Damascus is convinced that Israel might react energetically, it will measure its step. It will be ready to take the risk of confronting Israel only if it becomes convinced that we will not react to its provocations with a large military move, and that the IDF remains in its present lines.

This was also the case in March 1974, when Syria began a war of attrition which lasted 2 months, until a cease-fire was reached. The clashes began when Damascus, which had earlier been defeated on the Golan Heights, became convinced that the IDF would only react with fire and would not move forward. Then it also gave itself the pleasure of a little war of attrition. Syria can afford limited military moves, but it is doubtful that it may be ready for an all-out war if it wished to launch one prematurely.

The Russians are probably also giving this piece of advice to the Syrians. Although a deterioration in the field is possible, it is doubtful that Syria should initiate an all-out war against us. The immediate danger lies in provocations, a deterioration, and mutual military responses that are too energetic.

At the same time, one must contemplate another scenario, that of a deterioration in relations between Syria and Lebanon. It is very likely that Syria will abstain from clashing with the IDF, but put pressure on and threaten Lebanon in order to prevent it from signing an agreement with Israel. Damascus will presumably opt for political pressures and subversive actions over the use of force. For example, it would be better for it to close the border with Lebanon and exert economic pressures. However, we may also witness limited military moves along with political pressure. The shellings on the eastern quarters of Beirut are an example of this. A military move is also possible in which Palestinian units (As-Sa'iqah or the Palestinian Liberation Army) are used against the Lebanese Government.

In that case Israel would be in an embarrassing position. The military pressure would not be directed against it, and it would have to make up its mind on how to proceed. One should be forewarned that Israel should not get involved in a new war again for the ungrateful Lebanese. We would be inflicting another catastrophe upon ourselves if we indulged in the same error. The Lebanese as well as the Americans would probably want Israel to do the dirty work for them, but we would be well advised to refuse.

At the beginning of this week when shellings on the Ash-Shuf mountains intensified and expanded toward Beirut, appeals were addressed to us by both Marine commanders in Beirut and by Amin al-Jumayyil to use force against the sources of the fire in areas under our control. As long as we control Ash-Shuf we should see to maintaining calm in the territory controlled by us, but nothing beyond that.

Lebanon's fundamental problems have not been solved, and sooner or later sectarian clashes will resume in that country. We should not be involved in them (and this is another reason why we should hurry and withdraw from the Ash-Shuf mountains). Defence Minister Arens' new line obviously tends to remove the Israeli unilateral commitment toward the Phalangists and the Lebanese Christians. Although in the past we were ready to fight for them, the current tendency is to maintain good relations with all the main sects and groups in Lebanon. Hence, the Phalangists should not be promoted at the expense of the Druze, and we should not undertake any military commitment toward the former against the Druze. This line is right, considering the disappointment we suffered.

Another possibility is a direct Syrian takeover of Beirut and Juniyah. Lebanon should look for a solution to such a development in Washington rather than in Israel. Two camps, a Western and a pro-Russian one, are facing each other in Lebanon. The United States, Israel, and their weak and dilapidated partner — the Lebanese Government — are on the Western side, whereas the Soviet Union, Syria, and the PLO are on the other. The improvement in the atmosphere between Israel and Washington in the wake of the agreement with Lebanon might encourage us to decide to stay on in the Ash-Shuf mountains to watch over the

Western interest and that of the Lebanese Government, and prevent the disintegration of the Phalangists.

Some will even propose to volunteer to fight if the Syrians use force against the Lebanese Government, and that would be a serious mistake. One should recall that along with the embargo on the supply of the F-16's (due to our stay in Lebanon), Washington signalled to Damascus that there is room for a deal regarding the Golan Heights. It would be sufficient for Damascus to heed the U.S. request to part from the Soviet Union in exchange for the Golan Heights, and have Washington to pressure us to reconcile Syria with the token of the Golan Heights.

This is another reason why our goal should be to get out of Lebanon quickly, cheaply, and by guaranteeing the security of our northern border. That is all we should do rather than being the policeman of the West, doing the dirty work for otners, paying with blood for it, and ultimately also getting beaten on the head.

MA'ARIV Argues Against Unilateral IDF Withdrawal

TA121118 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 May 83 p 5

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "The Barrier on the Beirut-Damascus Highway"]

[Text] Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem leaves for Damascus today to inform Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad that the Lebanese president is determined to sign the agreement with Israel.

Had the IDF not been in control of the Beirut-Damascus highway, and had it not been a buffer between the Syrian Army in Al-Biqa' and President al-Jumayyil's palace in B'abda, Syria would not have needed to resort to negotiations with the Lebanese Government, and it would have imposed its decisions on the Lebanese president.

Moreover, Amin al-Jumayyil would not have been elected president of Lebanon. The U.S. Government, and even the Lebanese Government have realized this and in the last few days have reiterated their interest in Israel not making any unilateral move by pulling the IDF out of key points overlooking access to Beirut and Al-Biqa'.

The U.S. and Lebanese Governments have recognized Israel's security interests in southern Lebanon in the agreement scheduled to be signed, and this recognition was actually given in exchange for Israel's willingness to serve as a pressure lever for the pullout of all the foreign forces from Lebanon.

On his previous visit to Damascus, the Lebanese foreign minister asked President al-Asad for Syria's agreement to evacuate its army from Al-Biqa' and the Tripoli in order to accelerate the IDF's departure from Lebanon, but Al-Asad replied that Syria could not care less if the IDF remained in Lebanon and was exposed to a war of attrition. However, neither the United States nor Lebanon trust Al-Asad's words, and assume that they were uttered merely for the sake of bargaining. The United States and Lebanon both believe that the IDF's presence on the Beirut-Damascus highway constitutes leverage against Syria, and that this presence in particular impedes Syria from again taking control of the center of government in Beirut.

Syria still has some influence over the moves of the government in Beirut, but it cannot compel President al-Jumayyil not to rely on the United States, and not to coordinate positions with it in the negotiations with Israel — unlike the situation that existed prior to the IDF's arrival in Beirut. At that time, the Lebanese parliament could not convene and elect a president unacceptable to Syria, and the Lebanese Government would certainly not have been allowed to hold negotiations with Israel.

In the heat of the internal argument in Israel over the war, one actually forgets that Al-Jumayyil's men were the ones who for many years pleaded with Israel to come to their aid in order to establish an independent government in Lebanon in exchange for a promise that the latter would strive for peace with Israel. Of course, today one can argue whether it was wise to trust the promises of this ruling group and get muddled in the Beirut-Damascus line because of it. However, now that with the help of the United States this group is willing to sign an official document which recognizes Israel's security interest in southern Lebanon, it is very doubtful that we should let go of this important card due to last-minute impatience.

Before the Israeli Government gave its consent to the formulation of the agreement with Lebanon, there were many people who preached for concessions just to avoid a fight with the U.S. Administration. Now that an agreement in principle has been reached, there are those who are losing their patience and suggesting that the Israeli Government adopt unilateral measures which would actually weaken the U.S. bargaining position in the arrangement of the Lebanese problem.

It is clear that Israel must first and foremost decide according to its own interests. However, now that an agreement has been attained with the U.S. and Lebanese Governments, it is in Israel's interest to efficiently and fully benefit from cooperation with the Americans. At present, this cooperation calls for holding onto the Beirut-Damascus highway and even onto the Ash-Shuf mountains in spite of the inconveniences this entails. Otherwise we might soon find ourselves opposite an extremely pro-Syrian rule in Beirut which will demand the evacuation of the IDF from the whole of Lebanon at the UN Security Council, without ending the state of war, without a promise to prevent hostile activities from Lebanese territory, and without minimal supervision arrangements to prevent the PLO from rebuilding its infrastructure in southern Lebanon.

New Policy Toward Lebanese Factions Denied

TA121520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The Defense Ministry has stated that Israel has not changed its policy toward the communities in Lebanon. The defense minister's media affairs adviser has clarified that the IDF soldiers in the Ash-Shuf mountains have received clear orders to prevent any changes in the status quo, and to ensure that the cease-fire is maintained.

He was reacting to a report in this morning's HA'ARETZ that Defense Minister Moshe Arens had ordered the IDF to stop favoring the Phalangists over the other communities in the Ash-Shuf mountains.

Druze Ask Cooperation, Support

TA130715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] A delegation of Druze dignitaries and clerical people from the Ash-Shuf mountains is currently visiting Israel for a series of meetings with security elements. The Druze are asking for cooperation arrangements [hesderim] with Israel that will ensure their control of the mountains after the IDF leaves. The IDF officers in the Ash-Shuf fear that the cease-fire reached in the area might collapse any minute. Our correspondent in the north Hayim Hecht reports:

[Hecht] The delegation members stress again and again that they represent all the Druze in Lebanon. They will not say so explicitly to the correspondents, but they give more than a hint, saying the whole sect means Walid Junblatt as well. Their offer to Israel is simple: Cooperate with us, give us arms and other aid, and in return we will guarantee you another security zone of about 30 km north of the Al-'Awwali River.

The official Israeli answer is, of course, that we have nothing to do whatsoever in the Ash-Shuf. This is Lebanese territory. But even on the informal plain, some IDF officers have doubts regarding the reliability of the Druze. This is in the face of the close contacts of several extreme Druze militias with the Syrians and the terrorists. In the last few weeks, these contacts cost the IDF the lives of a few of its soldiers.

The Druze are especially angry about what they call the Shultz policy, which — according to them — the IDF is now carrying out in Lebanon. In fear that a violent Druze breakout in the Ash-Shuf will frustrate the signing of the agreement, the IDF, they say, confines us to our villages. A senior officer in the Ash-Shuf sector said yesterday that the minute the delegation returns empty handed, the whole of the Ash-Shuf will go up in flames.

A prologue [last word in English] to what might happen in this area can be read in the bloody incidents which occurred this week in Mtullah, a Christian village on the southern slopes of the Ash-Shuf. The residents of Mtullah were responsible for some roadblocks that prevented the Druze in the area of Rashayya and Hasbayya from going to the Ash-Shuf and the coastal road.

In the beginning of the week, the Druze went out to overtake Mtullah. The fighting began with a heavy artillery shelling. After this came the invasion. An IDF force, which heard the echos of the fighting, hurried to the location. While moving, one of the armored trucks overturned and an IDF soldier, private Arnon (Vaspi), was killed. The Druze attack was only stopped by the IDF armor. According to an IDF order, the Druze withdrew, but on their way back to Hasbayya they were ambushed by a Phalange force. The results of the fight on Mtullah: 16 Druze dead, 47 dead, 47 dead among the Christians. All in all, 63 blood accounts, which the members of both sects will demand be settled in the very near future.

Frontline States' Leaders in Tanzania for Summit

EA121259 Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1000 GMT 12 May 83

[Excerpt] Dar es Salaam 12 May — Leaders of the Frontline States have arrived in Dar es Salaam for a 1-day summit today. Those who arrived this morning were President Samora Machel of Mozambique, Quett Masire of Botswana, Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, and the Zimbabwean Prime Minister Ndugu Robert Mugabe. The Angolan President, Ndugu Dos Santos, is expected in the city this afternoon to attend the summit, which is expected to review the latest political developments in southern Africa.

Meeting Ends, Communique Issued

EA130254 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1900 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] In Dar es Salaam the heads of state of the frontline countries in the struggle for the liberation of southern Africa have called for the immediate implementation of UN resolution 435 on the independence of Namibia.

A joint communique issued at the end of the 1-day meeting also called for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the troops of the Boer regime of South Africa which are occupying parts of southern Angola.

The heads of state stressed the significance of the UN Security Council session which is to debate the Namibian issue later this year and directed their foreign ministers to attend the session and participate in it fully.

The heads called on all members of the OAU to attend the 19th meeting of the organization to be held in Addis Ababa next month. They said the meeting will provide an opportunity to strengthen the organization and discuss the problems facing this continent.

The meeting of the frontline states in the struggle for the liberation of southern Africa was chaired by President Nyerere and attended by President Kaunda of Zambia, President Dos Santos of Angola, President Machel of Mozambique, President Masire of Botswana and the prime minister of Zimbabwe, Ndugu Robert Mugabe. The leaders left Dar Es Salaam this evening for home.

Kodjo Says Some Nations Work Against OAU Summit

AB121802 Paris AFP in English 1741 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Victoria, Seychelles, May 12 (AFP) — Organisation of African Unity Secretary-General Edem Kodjo today spoke of "mavoeuvres in certain African capitals" aimed at preventing the planned third attempt next month to hold the 19th OAU summit.

The first two attempts collapsed in Tripoli last year because of boycotts by some states in disputes over respectively the admission of the SDAR and the representation of Chad.

A committee of 12 OAU members decided last February that the summit should be held "without preconditions" in Addis Ababa in June, and Mr Kodjo said today that those who objected should take the matter up with the committee.

The secretary-general said preparations for the reconvened summit, from June 6 to 11, were making good progress. If everything went as planned and the timetable laid down by the committee of 12 was respected, the summit will take place as envisaged, he said.

Yesterday Senegal's Information Minister Djibo Ka said the summit could not take place if the SDAR were represented, and the day before Tunisian Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmoud Mestiri also said that the meeting should be postponed.

The SDAR, whose Polisario Front guerrillas are fighting Morocco over the Western Sahara, was admitted to an OAU meeting early last year by Mr Kodjo after a majority of the Pan-African body's 50 states recognised it.

SDAR representation at the first Tripoli summit caused Morocco and other states to stage a boycott, depriving the meeting of a quorum. The SDAR agreed to stay away from the second summit — which collapsed over a different question — but has said several times since it intended to be in Addis Ababa.

Today Nigerian Foreign Minister Ishaya Audu, whose country is on the Committee of 12, arrived in Nairobi with a message to OAU chairman and Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi.

And in Dar es Salaam leaders of the six southern African frontline states called for all African countries to attend the summit without conditions so that the burning issues facing the continent could be discussed. The best way to resolve differences was to talk them over, they said.

Press Release on 5-7 May ECOWAS Ministerial Session

AB092131 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1615 GMT 9 May 83

[Press release on the 13th session of the ECOWAS Ministerial Council meeting held in Conakry — date of release not given]

[Text] The Ministerial Council of ECOWAS held its 13th session in Conakry, People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, from 5 to 7 May, 1983. All member states except Ghana were present. The meeting of the council was held under the chairmanship of Dr Mamouna Toure, minister of foreign trade of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea.

Following the discussions:

1. The council reaffirmed the need to create national bodies to monitor the activities of the community in all member states. It also expressed the need to create, within the ECOWAS Secretariat, a special section to act as a liason with these national bodies;

2. The council adopted the ad hoc ministerial committee's report on the system of liberalization of exchange;

3. The council called on the Secretariat to set up a technical commission on immigration to examine problems created by the implementation of the protocol on the free movement of people, the right of residence and settlement, and the progression to the second phase of the protocol;

4. It adopted a report on transport and telecommunications subject, however, to the recommendations of the Secretariat to study the implementation of a toll system on roads;

5. The council adopted the report by the minister of agriculture, water and forests, the report by the ministers of planning as well as the report by the board of governors of the ECOWAS fund.

The Executive Secretariat informed the council that a seminar on the ECOWAS program of liberalization of exchange will be held in September 1983.

Before closing its meeting, the 13th Ministerial Council approved a motion of thanks to the president of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea and to its people for the reception given it and the facilities placed at its disposal for the success of the meeting.

Migration Committee; Summit Set

AB090613 Paris AFP in English 0400 GMT 9 May 83

[Text] Dakar, Senegal, May 9 (AFP) — The Secretariat of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is shortly to set up a technical committee to deal with migration problems among the 16 member states.

The committee will study the issues raised by implementation of an ECOWAS protocol on free movement of people and their rights to residence, community said after a three-day meeting in the Guinea capital Conakry. The ministerial council was meeting to prepare for an ECOWAS summit in Conakry from May 26-29, Radio Conakry monitored here reported on Sunday.

The migration committee's formation comes after Nigeria in January and February expelled an estimated two million foreign black workers, most of them Ghanaians. Ghana did not attend the council meeting.

LIBYA

JANA: 'Revolution' in Fatah's Al-Biqa' Forces

LD121827 Tripoli JANA in English 1710 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Beirut, Rajab 30, May 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A revolution broke out within Fatah movement in Al-Biqa' valley.

Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] and Abu Mousa dominated most of Fatah troops in Al-Biqa' valley and captured the road leading to Syria and circled Abu Jihad (Khalil al-Wazir) declaring that this is the real Fatah and Fatah's revolution.

Abu Salih rejected reconciliation which some forces tried to conduct. He called for a trial to be held for some officials responsible for the Beirut battle who left the refugee camps without defence till they were destroyed as well as those who conspired against the resistance and left Lebanon.

On the other hand Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrested six commanders from Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] group, executed them and mutilated their bodies with knives and threw them in the streets. This led to an atmosphere of confusion and disgust among the factions of the resistance.

JANA: Libyan Airline Offices in Khartoum Occupied

LD122133 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 2012 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 12 May (JANA) — The repressive authorities of the lackey Numayri have committed an act of flagrant provocation at the offices of the Libyan Arab Airlines in Khartoum. The police stormed and occupied the office paying no consideration to international law and tradition.

The representative of the Libyan Arab Airlines in Khartoum has reported that he personally was subjected to harrassment, pressures, and insults by the police forces which occupied the office claiming this was on the order of lackey Numayri.

Demonstrations Against CIA Assassination Plan

LD121451 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 May 83

[Excerpts] At noon today the working masses staged a demonstration of anger and denunciation of the terroristic plan which the CIA had prepared for the assassination of the leader of the revolution. The demonstration began at the Green Square. The participants condemned this filthy terrorist plan in whose implementation agent elements affiliated to the Fatah movement took part. Demonstrators carried slogans stressing the workers' commitment to the great pioneering Fatih ideology.

While meeting at the People's Palace in Tripoli, the working masses issued a statement stressing their full readiness to implement the death order in defense of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and the cultural achievements in various fields. The statement condemned all the sinful attempts that seek to harm the great revolution. The participants stressed their rejection of the capitulation agreements which are taking place in the Arab arena. They called for the need to take up arms in the face of the capitulators and enemies of the Arab nation: imperialists, Zionists and reactionaries. They addressed a cable to the leader of the revolution strongly condemning the action of the CIA agent and demanding the severest punishment to serve as a lesson for anyone entertaining the idea of embarking on any action harmful to the dignity and honor of the Arab nation. They also rejected all the agreements of humiliation and shame which are being implemented in the Arab arena.

In Aziziyah municipality this morning, masses of the basic people's conferences staged a demonstration of anger and denunciation against the plans of the CIA for perpetrating an act of terrorism against the brother leader of the revolution. After passing through the main streets, the demonstrators gathered at Al-Shuhada Square where many speeches were made condemning this terroristic and base action.

At its emergency meeting today, the educational people's conference at the Fatih University Engineering Department stressed the need to bodily liquidate anyone who tried to harm the Great Fatih Revolution or who allowed himself to turn the university into a nest for corruption and for planning intrigues against the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and its leader.

Paper Scores U.S. Policy, Lauds Aid to Nicaragua

PM130815 Tripoli AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR in Arabic 2 May 83 p 1

[Editorial: "They Forget That They Are the Condemned Ones"]

[Excerpts] They were frightened by the report that struck them like a thunderbolt. They believed that by disseminating and broadcasting it they disseminated and broadcast a sensational secret and divulged it to the whole world. This happened when world news agencies, newspapers, and radios reported the news of the Libyan planes that made a stopover in Brazil the week before last after crossing the Atlantic on their way to the Nicaraguan people.

The imperialist radios and news agencies found the talk of the incident extremely sensational and tried to create an uproar over it in the world, thinking that they had succeeded in implementing the information plan drawn up for them by American intelligence and the Zionist Mossad.

Also, so-called Arab newspapers and radio dealt with the subject in the same manner and in an identical way, since the imperialist media and the reactionary Arab media are two sides of the same coin.

Regardless of the falsehoods spread by the intelligence, government, and commercial information media that dealt with the question of the Libyan aircraft, there remains one thing that the popular masses all over the globe should realize — that the United States is not the God of the modern age and is no longer a dreadful and invincible giant whose official actions we must take into account. Its administration's cogwheels are worn out,

it is dismembered and suffering all the diseases of the modern age — madness, unemployment, perversion, inflation, racial discrimination, and crimes. It is no longer a superpower that controls the destiny of peoples or holds 99 percent of the cards in all problems, as agents portray it as doing.

The fact that Reagan lost his nerve in front of the old men inCongress and announced his great annoyance that the Jamahiriyah people are giving aid to the Nicaraguan people, Salvadoran rebels, and the other world liberation movements simply marks a further escalation of the campaign of hostility and violent malice against this people for the second, third, and fourth time. This is not the first time that the head of the U.S. war administration has resorted to such a dirty attack on the Libyan Arab people.

The fact is that revolutionary forces have found out that the United States is afflicted with deep wounds that exude rottenness and pus and that pressure can be brought to bear on its wounds in various places.These wounds are painful and fatal.

The United States today is like a whore that preaches virtue, or an inebriated man leading the prayers and lecturing about virtue.

It is responsible for doubling the number of people killed or impoverished, of victims of crises and wars, and of unemployed in the world.

It would have been better had the head of the U.S. Administration turned his attention toward tending the U.S. wounds that need antiseptics and antibiotics, the wounds of racial discrimination against the blacks, the millions of unemployed, the homeless children and women, the soldiers forced to fight wars, the drug addicts, the criminals, and the movement of social rebellion.

All these problems are worthier of attention by the U.S. Senate and of the $600 million it allocated last week in order to kill the peoples of Central America and support the bloody fascist cliques that rule them. We are proud to admit that the uproar created over the Libyan aircraft that were heading for Nicaragua has scored a new victory for the revolutionary forces and has confirmed their growing strength and rising tide. It has proved their presence and effectiveness in the arena of international struggle and placed on record the new aid which Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the Libyan Arabs are giving to the millions of the impoverished, the tormented, and the oppressed in the world.

Let the popular masses and the revolutionary forces realize that the United States is incapable of toppling any revolution or progressive organization, as shown by the fact that it is unable to crush the Omani people's revolution against agent Qabus, or to do away with the Iranian people's revolution. The outbreak and success of any revolution in Africa, Asia, or Latin America means a weakening for the United States is no longer the God of the modern world; rather, for all the world's people to confront it and expose its ugly face has become a duty dictated by the necessities of the age, not the least of which is the necessity to create a happy world free of imperialism, the bourgeoisie, mass destruction weapons, and terror. The Libyan Arabs have now dared to destroy the U.S. myth, uncover its ugly face, and show its true nature as a body riddled with cancer.

Our craving for revenge on it has become greater, and so has our lust for blood, particularly when we review its crimes in Vietnam, Iran, Kampuchea, El Salvador, the Arab homeland, and Africa.

TUNISIA

Tunisian Foreign Minister Confers With 'Arafat

LD122026 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Beji Caid Es-Sebsi, yesterday conferred with the chairman of the Executive Committee of the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat. At this meeting which lasted 90 minutes Beji Caid es-Sebsi reaffirmed Tunisia's backing for the just Palestinian cause. The two sides also reviewed the recent developments in the field of Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. They also discussed the latest developments in the Middle East situation, particularly the visit of the American secretary of state to the region and the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

E T H I O P I A

COPWE Delegations Leave for Moscow Visit

EA121429 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 11 May 83

[Summary] Two Ethiopian delegations led by Comrade Bega shaw Atalay, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative for Keffa region, and Comrade Colonel Feleke Eshete, COPWE Central Committee member and second deputy head of the Political Department of the Revolutionary Armed Forces respectively, left for Moscow this morning for an exchange of work experiences in the Soviet Union.

Rebel Group Communique on Government Proclamation

EA122151 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front in Somalia to Western Somalia 1200 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The Western Somali Liberation Front, WSLF, has released a communique on its attitude to the recent proclamation made by the leader of the Addis Ababa terror gang, Mengistu Haile Mariam.

The WSLF Central Committee has met in extraordinary session at its headquarters. The meeting was attended by leading intellectuals, workers, and youth representatives from western Somali. Various confirmed reports about the plans and plots of the current campaign and maneuvers of the leader of the Addis Ababa regime were discussed.

Addressing the extraordinary session, the WSFL secretary general, the heroic Shaykh 'Abd an-Nasir Shaykh Adan, said that the treacherous plots currently being master-minded by colonialist Mengistu Haile Mariam and his allies will, as usual, encounter disastrous setbacks and a humiliating defeat. The WSFL secretary general also said the liberation struggle would continue until total freedom is won and nothing can divert us from that principle and objective.

If Haile Mariam really means what he says and if he wants peace and stability to prevail in this region, the WSLF proposes the following:

1. The Abyssinian regime should immediately halt the savage extermination campaign it is currently waging in Somaliland. The communique says Mengistu and his henchman know perfectly well that no form of oppression, massacre, pillage, or genocide can scare the people of western Somaliland, or force them to submit to the black Abyssinian regime's colonial yoke.

2. The regime should immediately and unconditionally release all the people of western Somaliland who are crowding all the Addis Ababa regime's jails.

3. All foreign troops should be withdrawn immediately from western Somaliland.

4. Direct and unconditional talk should be held between the leaders of the Abyssinian regime and the WSLF, which is the only organization able to speak in the name of the population of western Somali territory.

5. A referendum should be held in western Somaliland to enable its people to determine their own destiny. Such a referendum should be supervised by the OAU, the United Nations, and the Arab League. It can only be held after a cease-fire has been achieved in the area and total peace established.

The WSFL communique ends by calling on all the world's peace-loving peoples, governments, and organizations to understand fully the stand of the people of western Somaliland.

CHAD

French Police Reportedly Spoil Theft Scheme

AB102030 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] Martyred Chadian people, valiant freedom fighters, today we can give you details on the misadventure of Djima Djagoussou, the supercrook, with the French police. According to our permanent correspondent in Ndjamena, Christian Nucci, the French minister delegate to the minister of external relations for cooperation, issued a check for 1.3 billion CFA francs to the so-called authorities in Ndjamena during his recent visit there. The check was cashed at the French pay office in Ndjamena at Hissein Habre's request. Soon after this, Djima Djagoussou, the crook, was to take the money in trunks to Switzerland, via Paris. So, the 1.3 billion CFA francs were transferred from the French Embassy directly to the Ndjamena airport.

The French authorities, who were informed of this, secretly alerted the police at Roissy Airport in Paris. When Djima Djagoussou got off the plane, he was ordered to open all his trunks. But the highwayman referred to the Geneva convention with regard to diplomatic suitcases, saying they need not be opened. He underrated the perspicuity of the French policemen who seized the trunks, however. They were surprised to discover that the 1.3 billion CFA francs paid by French taxpayers were being carried to the Swiss bank under their very noses. The crooks of Ndjamena did not even bother to change the trunks and labels.

So, Mitterand's Socialist government has decreed austerity in his country in order to satisfy a blackmailer, the jailer of Francoise Claustre, the murderer of Commader Gallopin, the drug trafficker, the executioner of the Chadian people and gang leader named Hissein Habre, who has been sentenced to death by the Chadian people.

Bardai Says Habre Forces Terrorizing Citizens

AB102104 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] The national annihilation forces, which are cornered on all battlefronts, are now unfortunately resorting to extremist measures of intimidation, which involve both mistakes and cruelty. You can judge for yourselves.

An extremely serious event has just occurred in southern Chad. To terrorize peaceful citizens and to deter them from reacting against acts of extortion and provocation, Hissein Habre's handymen carried their barbarism to the point of burning the chief town of Bibofen district in the Moyen Chari, as well as Dodoti and Depara in the Logone Oriental.

Our correspondent adds that, in spite of the wave of wild arrests among the peaceful civilian population, revolutionary patriots are determined to show greater resistance and to give their active support to the national commando units of the National Liberation Forces. So, the political, military and social situation which the national annihilation forces are trying to cope with is deteriorating every day.

Our permanent correspondent in Ndjamena has confirmed that the all-out military operations launched by the commando units of the National Liberation Forces have brought road traffic to a standstill, particularly in Ndjamena. It is a well-known fact that traffic on the road between Ndjamena and Abeche has been disrupted.

West Dictating OAU Stand to African Countries

AB102125 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] On the eve of the 20th [as heard] OAU summit, the reactionary countries on the African Continent are engaged in a great deal of bargaining. Such dealing smacks of conspiracy. As a matter of fact, envoys from Western imperialist countries are unscrupulously touring African neocolonial states in order to give them instructions and to dictate to them the common stand to adopt. In this connection, Guy Penne, the French president's adviser for African and Malagasy affairs, has just ended a visit to Senegal and has gone on to Togo. We know that those two states are among the small number of African countries manipulated by U.S.-French imperialism, which does not hide its maneuvers against the progressive countries of our continent.

RWANDA

Zambian Party Secretary General Ends Visit

MB120850 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Zambia and Rwanda have expressed concern about the danger to peace and stability by the arms buildup by the superpowers. Party Secretary General Humphrey Mulemba and the Rwandan secretary general of the National Revolutionary Movement for Development said this in a communique at the end of Mr Mulemba's visit to Rwanda. The two leaders said that the money being wasted on the arms race could instead be profitably used to assist the development of poor countries.

Mr Mulemba has, meanwhile, arrived in Bujumbura from Rwanda for a 3-day official visit.

GHANA

TIMES on U.S. Criticism of Mentions of CIA

AB121030 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 12 May 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The GHANAIAN TIMES expresses surprise that the American Embassy in Ghana is still sore about the mention of the CIA in Ghana in view of the fact that the CIA comes under the severest criticism in the United States itself. It says scarcely any edition of American magazines and newspapers comes out without a news item, a reader's letter, or an article on the CIA's activities.

The TIMES reminds the American Embassy that the newspaper is produced in the normal way as other newspapers are produced with news from various sources and the various countries. It is therefore not for the embassy to tell Ghanaians why it objects to news of America being published in the Ghanaian media and also substantiate how much publication has created the supposed anti-American hysteria that it accused the TIMES of creating in Ghana in its letter to the editor of the paper last week.

The paper warns that the letter from the embassy contains a (?vile) threat to the life of the editor, for he was told that he bears some of the responsibilities for creating the so-called anti-American hysteria and thereby endangering the lives of Ghanaians and Americans. The TIMES says that it has taken note of the points, but then, if the editor was worried about what to expect from the enemies of the revolution, he would not still be sitting behind the editorial desk.

Botwe Invites Alternative Budget Proposals

AB121904 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botwe, has invited critics of the budget to suggest an alternative proposal which will alleviate the problems of the people. He said the budget as it stands now is aimed at generating enough foreign exchange.

Dr Botwe was speaking at a seminar on the budget at the National Cultural Center in Kumasi today. He conceded that the budget is a bitter pill for Ghanaians, but the future prospects are good. Dr Botwe assured Ghanaians, particularly workers, that essential commodities will be sold direct to them instead of passing through middlemen. They should, therefore, embrace the people's shop idea which is meant to eliminate kalabule [profiteering and other trade malpractices] traders.

The secretary remarked that the country's export sector is gradually grinding to a halt. The budget will, therefore, enable the government to get in enough cedis to pay bonuses to the nation's exporters, particularly in the cocoa, timber, and mining industires.

On the increases in air fares, Dr Botwe said if people fail to patronize Ghana Airways, expecially the DC-10 which was recently bought it will be sold, and the proceeds used to import raw materials to feed the industries. He said foreign financial institutions which have confidence in the Provisional National Defense Council's [PNDC] economic policy are prepared to offer assistance. Dr Botwe warned that the PNDC aimed [as heard] and will always be tolerant, but he warned those resorting to violence, adding that no member of the government gained financially from serving the country.

A member of the Economic Review Committee, Dr Joe Abbey, assured workers that the 21 cedis daily wage is not the minimum wage. The government has invited the ILO to advise it on the minimum wage to be paid to workers. Dr Abbey noted that the budget seeks to plug the many loopholes which some foreign investors have been exploiting for the transfer of foreign exchange abroad in the name of so-called (?exports).

Another speaker was the secretary for fuel and power, Mr Appiah Korang. He again explained that the government is heavily subsidizing petroleum products. He said any further reduction of petroleum prices will also affect the producer price of cocoa.

Other speakers were the secretary for trade, Mr Ashiboi Mensah; the secretary for industry, science, and technology, Dr George Opoku; the deputy secretary for transport and communications, Mr Kwame Peprah; and the deputy secretary for land and natural resources, Mr Ohene Kinah. Present was Warrant Officer Adjei Boadi, member of the PNDC.

Our Ashanti Region correspondent said the seminar was preceeded by a demonstration against the budget. The demonstrators asked for the withdrawal of the budget and that the PNDC should hand over to the chief justice.

DAILY GRAPHIC Comment

AB130802 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 13 May 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC comments on yesterday's seminar on the budget at Kumasi, which according to it was marred by violent demonstrations. The paper alleges that the demonstrations had been planned well in advance, which gives the clue that it was not just the budget people did not want to listen to. This is because some students, who are reported to have sworn to bring the Provisional National Defense Council down, were very active in the demonstrations.

The GRAPHIC also believes that the high concentration of businessmen in Kumasi, most of whom have been greatly affected by the budget, must have accounted for the rather intolerant and violent behavior. The paper says what is perplexing is that the same people who wanted a change a few months ago are now not only opposing the methods of change, but even the very agents of change so that the expected hardships on the people are being used as a cover to overthrow the government.

The paper cautions that the country has seen enough promises to be allowed to slip into the hands of dishonest and corrupt leaders. The GRAPHIC appeals to all those who are opposed to the budget to offer alternative solutions, for no amount of demonstrations can repair the country's economy.

DPRK Foreign Ministry Delegation Arrives in Accra

AB122054 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] A delegation of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is on a 5-day visit to the country. Speaking to newsmen on arrival in Accra, the leader of the delegation, Comrade Kim Chae-pong, who is also the deputy minister of foreign affairs, said North Korea cherishes the revolutionary path Ghana has taken to liberate itself. He said the delegation will hold discussions with officials of the Foreign Affairs Ministry on developments in cooperation between the two countries.

On the unification of North and South Korea, Comrade Kim Chae-pong disclosed that the two Koreas will embark on a confederation through peaceful means. What is obstructing the speedy implementation, Comrade Chae-pong said, is the continued U.S. (?presence) in South Korea, adding that when they move away with their weapons, unification will be achieved.

LIBERIA

Government Issues New Penal Law 12 May

AB121938 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The People's Redemption Council has issued decree No 72 repealing the penal law, title 27, of the Liberian Code of Laws of 1956. Under this decree the act entitled "An Act Adopting a New Penal Law and Repealing Sections 31.3 and 32.1 of Criminal Procedure Law as Amended" has been reactivated.

The act adopting a new penal law provides for all thefts and related offenses in one category entitled "Theft of Property." But the reactivated penal law, which has been repealed by decree No 62, provides for the misapplication of entrusted property under which an accused could be charged for misapplication of entrusted property depending on the circumstances surrounding the fine.

Decree No 72 takes immediate effect.

NIGERIA

Shagari Willing To Discuss 'Political Thuggery'

AB120830 Lagos NAN in English 0810 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Makurdi, May 11 (NAN)— President Shehu Shagari said today in Makurdi that he was willing to meet the UPN [Unity Party of Nigeria] leader, Chief Obafemi Awolowo, and the delegation he planned to lead to the state house to discuss the issue of political thuggery. A National Executive Council meeting of the UPN had resolved yesterday to meet the president to discuss the issue.

The president told a rally that he was surprised that those who preach and practice violence often accused the NPN [National Party of Nigeria] of political thuggery. He said that the NPN members would not be involved in any form of violence and warned that nobody will be given a free ticket to practice violence.

President Shagari expressed concern over the inability of some state governments to pay workers salaries, particularly those of teachers. He said that the federal government was prepared to grant loans to needy state governments to enable them pay their workers regularly, adding that such loans would only be an interim measure. He said that an NPN federal government after this year's general election would guarantee free, qualitative and functional education at all levels.

President Shagari told the gathering that all federal roads in Benue had either been completed or were progressing steadily. The president, who ordered the revocation of the contract for the rehabilitation of the chintaku-ankpa-branch road, declared: "I am personally unhappy that in the Igala area, roads whose contract has since been awarded were neglected and abandoned by the contractors handling them."

He was also worried that work had not started on the soil erosion project in Ankpa and said that the contract would be reviewed.

He said that in addition to existing federal projects in the state, a steel foundry which would cost 100 million naira and provide employment for thousands of people would be established in the state by the next NPN federal government.

Both Governor Ape Aku and his running mate for this year's election, Sule Iyaji, were presented to the public by the president. The vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, and Governor Melford Okilo of Rivers state were among dignatories who attended the rally.

ROK Army Chief of Staff Arrives in Lagos

AB122142 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The Republic of Korea's chief of Army Staff, General (Wang u-Thai), and his wife arrived in Lagos today on a 4-day official visit to the country. Gen (Wang) was met at the Murtala Mohammed Airport by his Nigerian counterpart, Lieutenant General M.I. Wushishi, top military officers, and members of the Korean diplomatic mission. The visit is at the invitation of the Nigerian Army.

SENEGAL

Upper Voltan Foreign Minister Interviewed in Dakar

AB120920 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The Upper Voltan minister of foreign affairs and cooperation arrived in Dakar this evening. He was welcomed on arrival by his Senegalese counterpart, Moustapha Niasse, minister of state for foreign affairs. The Upper Voltan minister will be in our country until Friday, when he will leave for New York. Oumar Seck interviewed him on his arrival.

[Begin recording] [Seck] Mr Minister, can we place your visit within the framework of the current diplomatic moves being made in preparation of the coming OAU summit?

[Kafando] Your question is quite pertinent. Naturally, Upper Volta will attend the next OAU summit, as the chairman of the People's Salvation Council stated quite recently. In this regard the minister of foreign affairs has been asked to make the necessary contacts to engage the subregion in dialogue and consultations in order to ensure the fullest participation of all states in the coming OAU summit. Your question is therefore welcome. My present tour is thus also aimed at making contacts which will favor greater participation of African countries in the next OAU summit, which as you know is scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa at the beginning of June.

[Seck] And this will also be an occasion for you to discuss relations between Senegal and Upper Volta?

[Kafando] Talking about relations between Senegal and Upper Volta, I can readily tell you that these relations are excellent; we have no problems. It is no secret that very soon, depending on dates to be set by the two countries, the head of state or the prime minister of Upper Volta will pay a friendly working visit to Senegal. This shows the great importance that Uuper Volta attaches to strengthening and consolidating the relations between the two countries. The two countries are linked by very close cultural and historical ties, and you know that in terms of West African civilization two countries have very close similarities. Under these conditions, I believe Upper Volta has every interest to strengthen and consolidate its relations with the brotherly people of Senegal and the nation.

[Seck] Mr Minister, you will leave for New York at the end of your visit to Senegal. What is the aim of your visit there?

[Kafando] My visit to New York is simply aimed at making contacts with international financial institutions to see how best they can assist Upper Volta in its economic development. This is because, in addition to the privileged bilateral relations between states, we would also like to attach special importance to multilateral cooperation. As the United Nations is in principle the main venue for this multilateral cooperation, I decided to make the necessary contacts to see how we can effectively arrange the cooperation with these multilateral aid bodies. This is the objective of my visit to New York. (end recording]

Minister Leaves for U.S.

AB130815 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 13 May 83

[Text] Michel Kafando, the Upper Voltan minister for foreign affairs and cooperation, left our capital this morning for New York. The Upper Voltan minister arrived in Dakar on Wednesday.

ANGOLA

Cuban Ambassador Departs at End of Mission

MB120930 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Cuban Ambassador Francia Mestre left Luanda last night on his way home at the end of his 3-year period of diplomatic service in the People's Republic of Angola.

Speaking to the press before leaving the Angolan capital, Francia Mestre expressed his gratitude for the hospitality accorded him by the Angolan people. He said they will find a way to free their homeland from the Pretoria racists and their lackeys, who are trying at all costs to prevent national reconstruction and the harmonious development of the People's Republic of Angola. He described the relations between Angola and Cuba as excellent and historic, and said they are being continuously strengthened in all fields, particularly in the health, education, and construction sectors.

The Cuban diplomat was seen off by (Paulo dos Anjos), acting director for political affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and by representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Angola.

PRC's Gong Dafei Discusses Health Cooperation

AB121543 Luanda ANGOP in French 1433 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Luanda, 12 May (ANGOP) — Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Gong Dafei, on an official visit to Angola since Monday, was received yesterday afternoon by the Angolan deputy minister of health, Flavio Fernandes.

During this meeting, Flavio Fernandes briefed him on the party's general health policy and the national health service and its structure. The two ministers also discussed possible cooperation in the field of medicine, development of medicinal plants and technical cooperation. The two parties also agreed to make further contacts on the subject through diplomatic channels.

The Chinese vice minister expressed satisfaction at what he learned about Angola's health policy, which, he said, is the same as China's.

Gong Dafei took the opportunity to invite a delegation from the Angolan Ministry of Health, to be led by the deputy health minister, to visit the PRC for the signing of a draft cooperation agreement.

Today, Thursday, the Chinese delegation will visit the Petrangol oil refinery, and will meet the minister of foreign trade as well as the deputy minister of agriculture.

Yesterday, the Chinese vice foreign minister met the Angolan deputy minister of industry, Justino Fernandes, with whom he discussed possibilities for cooperation in the industrial field. During this meeting, the Chinese vice minister was briefed on Angola's industrial potential.

Before this meeting, Gong Dafei, accompanied by Luis de Almeida, Angola's ambassador to France, visited the Museum of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola in Luanda.

UNITA's Savimbi on Czechs, Talks With MPLA

MB121240 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] We are going to carry some excerpts from an interview given by Comrade President Dr Savimbi to a journalist of Radio France Inter, which was broadcast by that radio on 3 May. Let us hear Jonas Savimbi being interviewed by Yves Loiseau:

[Begin Savimbi recording] The issue of the Czechoslovaks captured at Alto Catumbela must be understood in the context of the conflict which still engulfs our country. Our objective was not to capture the Czechoslovaks; our objective was to destroy the economic complex at Alto Catumbela. However, when we found the Czechoslovaks, we decided to take them with us because, had we left them behind, they would have been killed by uncontrolled MPLA elements [words indistinct]. We want to use the opportunity to convey a clear message to the world that the civil war is continuing in Angola, because Alto Catumbela is in no way an area bordering Namibia. Alto Catumbela is in Benguela Province.

We also wanted to make the world understand that from the time the Cubans arrived in Angola, the problem of southern Africa ceased to be a regional issue and became a world issue. The Cubans would never have intervened in Angola without the direct support of the Soviets. The Czechoslovaks, Bulgarians, and East Germans came to consolidate the victory achieved by the Soviets with the aim of extending their hegemony over all of Africa. That is why we would like to see the conflict between the MPLA and UNITA solved on the basis of direct contacts between us, and this would also aid the solution of the Namibian question.

Our idea was to make the MPLA aware of the seriousness of the situation and accept our appeal to discuss ways of putting an end to our conflict, because the conflict will continue. I would even say that in Angola there are forces which are not controlled by the MPLA, and there are forces which UNITA does not control. If the MPLA and UNITA are not aware of the precarious situation facing our country, foreign forces will always have a pretext to intervene. Only UNITA and the MPLA can totally block all attempts at intervention. The MPLA cannot use the (?argument) about Cuban internationalism. The Cubans are neither Africans nor Angolans. They came to Angola to kill. They came to kill — killing and profiteering.

Certainly, our group cannot sit with folded hands and watch as our rights and our participation in political and economic life are blocked completely. We (?shall not hesitate) to ask for assistance, as we have always done, no matter where it comes from. This has been confirmed [words indistinct]. That is why the solution that the Angolan people are entitled to look for requires direct contact between the MPLA and UNITA.

It is true that we have different programs and different (?tactics),

but we are all patriots. We love our country, and the Angolan people are looking forward to the day when UNITA and the MPLA will hold talks around the table and when, through these negotiations, we shall be able to close our doors to all foreign influence, including South African, U.S., Cuban, Russian, and [word indistinct] influence. It will be up to the Angolans to decide on the relations to be established with other countries. [end recording]

[Announcer] Elsewhere in his interview, Comrade President Dr Savimbi added in answer to the French journalist:

[Begin Savimbi recording] In 1975, the South Africans were already in Angola with the Cubans. Following appeals by the international community, and by the OAU in particular, the South Africans withdrew.

The South Africans are not physically fighting side by side with UNITA. In contrast, the MPLA now has 40,000 Cubans, up from the previous figure of 12,000. We confront the Cubans every day, apart from the massacres they commit.

On the other hand, the South Africans are not anywhere in Cunene. The MPLA exaggerates. South Africa does not occupy (?any part of it). On the whole, the fight is being waged between UNITA alone on the one side and the Cubans and the MPLA on the other. As we have already said, the MPLA tries to offer as justification the idea that Cuba is progressive. But killing, massacring, raping, and alienating people are not examples of progressive behavior. Rather, they are examples of reaction. That is why the Angolan people are not in any way willing to replace the Cubans with the South Africans. We want to see Cubans out, South Africans out, and only Angolans deciding, on their own, the future of their policies, their economy, and their own [word indistinct].

I am convinced, with the knowledge I have of the facts, that SWAPO is not in Namibia; SWAPO is in Angola. That is why I think that those who are dealing with the southern Africa issue are following the wrong path. The MPLA will not allow the withdrawal of the Cubans as long as UNITA continues to fight. But the day will come when the MPLA and UNITA will understand each other, and then the MPLA will not need the Cubans. Once the Cubans withdraw from Angola, South Africa will not have any pretext to continue delaying the decolonization of Namibia in the face of international opinion and the United Nations.

Thus, (?needless) to say, as soon as the Angolan conflict ends, Namibia will be independent. We will then have created conditions for peace and stability in southern Africa, which are conditions for [words indistinct]. [end recording]

MADAGASCAR

Cuban Foreign Minister Begins 4-Day Visit

MB121257 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The Cuban foreign minister, Mr Isidoro Malmierca, who is also deputy secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, has been received at the Ivato international airport by the interim Malagasy foreign minister, [name indistinct]. Mr Isidoro Malmierca will stay in our country for 4 days, during which time he will meet senior Malagasy officials as he prepares to chair the next session of the Malagasy-Cuban Joint Commission. During the 4-day visit, the two sides will consider (?new) basic guidelines for cooperation. The Cuban foreign minister also bears a message from Cuban President Fidel Castro to the president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, Mr Didier Ratsiraka.

MOZAMBIQUE

Further Reportage on Fourth Frelimo Congress

Machel Speaks Following Debate

MB060913 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1145 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Speech by Mozambique President Samora Machel, following the debate on the Central Committee report, during the Fourth Frelimo Party Congress on 29 April in Maputo — live]

[Text] Let us consider some of the remarks that have been made here. Let us consider the remarks made by (Jose Nxumali) yesterday when he was speaking on and referring to the program. I am not very sure whether it was on the program or the report. Which was it, the report or the program? [Delegates reply: "The report"] Yes, the report. He said that we have not been able to implement what has been planned by the state because we refuse to make sacrifices. There is no victory without sacrifice. Victory has always been the result of successive battles in a struggle. However, we want to do more than wage battles. We want victories as well.

You heard the remarks here yesterday. During these remarks we heard that in one instance workers cut 20,000 metric tons of sugarcane, and that this was done without electricity. The day before yesterday a [word indistinct] came from Niassa, saying: We have everything; we have food, we have goods, we have money. However, now we do not know what to do with the money. We are wearing what we have on now because of the congress. Then, does this mean that in order for people to be properly dressed we must always hold congresses? I do not know if this is what was actually meant, or am I exaggerating? The message was not understood.

Then, there was the message from Mecanhelas read by the first secretary of Mavago. He said: We now have irrigation. We have a mill. We have this, we have that. It appeared to be the poorest province that we inherited in our territory, lacking even the most

basic infrastructure. This is Niassa. This was the unknown Niassa. It was not by chance that the Portuguese wrote volumes, volumes on the unknown Niassa. Convinced of the fact that no one from the outside would work for them, the people of Niassa ...[Machel changes thought]

Some provinces will receive praise at the congress. There are such provinces, and you know them. You know which ones they are. I do not need to name them. There are enterprises that will be praised.

Today, when one speaks of Niassa one is speaking of abundance.

Since 1975, when independence was proclaimed, to date, the people of Niassa have not known what to do with all their maize, beans, and other products. They no longer know what to do with them. Niassa feeds Nampula; it feeds Zambizia, and products from Niassa are even brought up to Maputo. There are towns being built in Niassa. Some delegates here think that these claims are exaggerated.

Yesterday, war veterans came here to greet the congress. These war veterans are here with us. Yesterday, they dressed themselves in their guerrilla battle fatigues, and later they changed clothes and wore ties. They are here with us. They are right here with us. If I had to request all those who were in guerrilla battle dress to stand up, or if I had to tell them to stand ...[Machel changes thought] Please, stand up. They were all in uniform. Where are you now? Oh, you are now first secretaries. [laughter and applause] (Chibande), you are no longer a guerrilla, are you? Oh! Yesterday, these people addressed the congress, and (Chibande's) name was mentioned in some of the statements. These people, most of them, were provincial commanders. They were provincial leaders. They were sector and district leaders. They were base commanders. Some were exclusively concerned with supplies. Others were only in charge of health services, schools, and production.

Niassa had never seen cashewnut trees. We ordered people to bring cashewnuts from Cabo Delgado, and we planted them at the site of the Second Frelimo Party Congress in 1969. The cashewnut trees are now big. I do not know how they are doing in eastern Niassa, where we planted a few acres of cashewnuts. Did they take root or not? Did they die? [delegates reply: "They took root."] We told the people in Niassa: Look, here you can plant cashewnuts.

In 1967, 1968, in 1969 people died in eastern Niassa of hunger. Some of the people who are here know it. Some of them are laughing. We were in eastern Niassa for 2 months to study the means of liquidating hunger there. We were there in December and January, and in February we left for other battlefronts. When we returned to eastern Niassa in May and June, these guerrillas were fat. What did we say: Plant sweet potatoes and cassava. These are the people, but before that time they were hungry, and at a meeting we held with them their stomachs were rumbling with hunger. These people are up there, and they are everywhere.

The people in Tete Province did not know what cassava was. We sent truckloads of cassava trees to be planted in that province to fight hunger. We sent them to Tete and several other areas. We used to eat fresh food, and we never ate canned food. Canned food was suitable only for the enemy.

We were supposed to eat fresh food. As the comrades said here, we had plates made from the metal of the bombs that the Portuguese were dropping, napalm bombs. They would, in fact, explode, but the metal (?casings) would remain. We would turn them into plates and water containers to irrigate the land. We would use the metal from the trucks that we destroyed to make needles, hoes, picks, and spades. Today, however, we have scrap metal everywhere. When cars break down and people buy new ones, we have more scrap metal.

Yesterday, we looked at our weapons. You saw them on display here. During the 10-year national liberation war, we used to extract salt, and we had a fishing cooperative. We had a trade cooperative and a production cooperative. In those 10 years we never faced hunger. [Sentence indistinct] People will speak again, and we shall hear many things. We shall hear a great many things. However, when it comes to action, then we are faced with the real test. Thank you. Thank you, guerrillas. [applause] Please, sit down.

When we speak of the experiences of the national liberation war...[Machel changes thought] Also, yesterday we heard a good address by Dr (Ivo Garrido). He said that we have achieved political independence and political and social liberation. These remarks were made yesterday. The greatest discipline and vigilance prevailed in our war zones. The discipline and vigilance were incorruptible. The war zones were the incorruptible source of moral, political, cultural and material inspiration. When we talk about the war zones, we refer to the liberated zones. In those areas we built democracy and socialism. In those areas we built the socialist and revolutionary code of morality. We did this in those areas. Now, how can we pass on these messages to people who resist that code of morality?

There was a comrade here who said that when the war was in full swing we were able to find clothing for the people. This was not charity. The people used to produce things, and their goods, like peanuts, cashewnuts, sesame, wax, and fish, were sold in the United Republic of Tanzania. We used to sell these things in Tanzania. We used to sell these things in Tanzania, but today we are unable to do so. We used to sell goods in Tanzania.

Some people said here yesterday that the bodies of the people who die in the People's Republic of Mozambique are buried without clothes. There is no cloth in which to wrap the corpses.

In the war zones we built beautiful residential homes. Marcelino dos Santos stressed the need for transportation, trade, housing, and health. At times we do not even know how to use the support that we receive. This is the crux of the matter. We have a document on military equipment, health, educational equipment, and uniforms, which we wrote in 1969 and 1970, and this document has names and other details of each and every Frelimo militant. The document also expresses our appreciation of the significance of the gifts and the sacrifices that countries made when they gave us a hoe. We have the document here with us,

and we can read it tomorrow. If I had known that I would be referring to it, I would have brought it with me.

What does solidarity mean? Present here with us are democratic organizations from many countries, including capitalist countries. These are democratic and progressive organizations. They support us, and they came to attend the congress to understand our problems and to study ways of supporting this country. We, ourselves, do not know what to do to help ourselves. There are many cooperatives in these countries. During the war we had links with some Italian cooperatives like (Reggio Emilia) in Bologna. This was when the war was in full swing. Our hospitals in Zambezia and Cabo Delgado had links with a big hospital in Italy. The GDR solidarity organization and organizations of all socialist countries were able to give us aid, and we knew how to receive and use it. We knew how to use it. We knew how to use whatever they gave us. The PRC friendship organization gave us aid which we knew how to use. We were able to use what we received from the governments and organizations of those countries.

Today, we do not know how to use the aid. When we receive aid from an organization, we do not know how to distribute it, and when we receive aid from a government, we are at a complete loss. We made fullest use of the funds from the OAU and the countries which supported us of and the funds and vehicles from Tanzania and Zambia. Today, however, we are unable to use them and we have become irresponsible. Today we face decline and the deterioration of our lives because of our own irresponsibility. Fortunately, we have already become aware of the irresponsibility. In 1980, the year of the political and organizational clampdown, we discovered the irresponsibility. This is what we must take into account when we want to analyze our economic and social directives.

Thank you. Let us now continue with our addresses. I am sorry that I have spoken for such a long time. I am sorry. I violated the rules of the congress, but I feel duty-bound to say what I feel I must say.

Yesterday, there were people who came here wearing military uniforms which they had worn during the national liberation war. The uniforms they had on were worn during the national liberation struggle.

We gave our arms to our brothers in Zimbabwe, to enable them to start a war in Zimbabwe. Trucks, which lasted during our entire war, were brought here. We still have them and use them. We took care of these trucks because we understood the value of transportation. These trucks are still with us, but those which we buy today are not cared for. Some of our trucks from the national liberation war are in the museum, but they are in good enough condition to be driven at any time. We are keeping them in the museum only to preserve them as part of our history.

Imagine traveling from Nachingweya, in Tanzania, to the Zambian border, about 3,000 or more than 3,000 kms...[Machel changes thought] From Dar es Salaam to Lusaka, the distance is 2,000 miles or 3,000 kms. From Nachingweya to the border we would send six truckloads of food, needles and uniforms, and everything would be delivered, and receipt and arrival of the goods would be acknowledged. Everything would arrive and be acknowledged. Today, however, a truck leaves a factory with beer for the Polana Hotel, and the beer disappears halfway to its destination, and when the truck leaves from Maputo to Xai-Xai, it seems that the truck is traveling from Mozambique to Great Britain. [jeers] The truck gets lost at sea. It gets lost in the ocean waters.

We know there is black marketeering, and that is why some of the people said that we have been infiltrated. A vehicle leaving Maputo port with prawns to be kept refrigerated disappears en route. How many kms are there? Can the minister of transport tell us how many kms there are?

Yes, the cargo disappears. The contents disappear, but the vehicle does not, and the vehicle returns to the port to take more prawns. [laughter] Prawns leaving Beira with orders and receipts for Maputo land at Maputo International Airport, and from there they find their way to South Africa and Swaziland.

How on earth are we going to implement our economic directives? I give you the time to continue your addresses now. I call on Graca Machel [Machel's wife] to address the congress, and others will speak later.

Party Program Changes Outlined

MB091048 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1656 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Address by Jorge Rebelo, Frelimo Party secretary for ideology, to the Fourth Frelimo Party Congress in Maputo on 28 April — live]

[Excerpt] Dear delegates, invited guests: First of all, allow me to extend greetings to all delegates to the fourth congress, as well as to the invited guests and representatives from the fraternal and friendly parties whose presence here gives our congress a greater significance and dimension. Allow me to extend particularly warm and affectionate greetings to you, Comrade President. Our comrade president has been leading our people from victory to victory. You led us in the war which defeated colonialism and gave us liberty. You are now leading us in the building of socialism. I want to say, unpretentiously, Comrade President, that we have no doubts that under your leadership we shall overcome all difficulties, win all battles, and ensure our people's happiness.

Comrade President, comrade delegates, invited guests, with your permission I would now like to present the report from the Program Commission, whose main task was to examine the party program in order to propose possible amendments or corrections to the congress.

The program is one of the party's most fundamental documents, in which its political line is defined and its objectives and the general strategy to achieve them drawn up. All the economic and social programs we have laid down, all of the work carried out by the party in the political and ideological fields, and all initiatives in the fields of culture, science, sports, and arts have as their base and point of departure the principles stipulated in the party

program. That is why it is necessary for the program to be theoretically concrete. That is why it is necessary for the program to be a document of great precision and extreme clarity. It is necessary that in every phase the party program reflects the most advanced stage of our awareness, our theoretical ability, and our understanding of concrete reality.

Some of the amendments that this commission will propose have the precise objective of making our program more accurate, clearer and more specific, so that it reflects the advances made during the period since the third congress. In the same manner, these amendments are aimed at incorporating into the program new practical experience which has been gained since the third congress and which led to the drafting of new principles. In some cases, we shall have to eliminate or adjust points in the program which have clearly been overtaken by the very progress of the revolution.

The first conclusion the commission arrived at in examining the program was that, in general, it is still valid. The program approved during the third congress calls for the building of socialism in the People's Republic of Mozambique. In this context, it continues to be topical. However, during the 6 years since the third congress, profound changes have taken place in our country, changes which were precisely recommended by the program we had approved. Within the framework of the program's implementation, we have taken steps which today place us in a qualitatively new phase of the Mozambique revolution.

The creation of a Marxist-Leninist party was in itself a decisive factor in deepening the revolutionary process in our country. The subsequent restructuring of the party enabled it to exercise a leading role in all sectors. The party thus became the stimulus for economic and social change and the catalyst for the initiative and creative energy of the masses in the process of creating a socialist society.

The consolidation of people's power with the establishment of respective organs throughout the country has created conditions that allow the workers and their main ally, the peasants, to truly and effectively exercise their power at all levels over the rest of society. In our country today, power belongs to the workers, and it is exercised by them in their own interest and in the interest of all Mozambique poeple.

On the economic level, during the period since the third congress, we have continued the process of eliminating the capitalist relations of production which long ago ceased to have a predominant place in our country. The issue of possession of the means of production was clearly solved in favor of the worker-peasant alliance. These changes enable us today, without any doubt, to regard our country as a socialist country and our economy as a developing economy where socialist relations of production are developing and being consolidated.

The Program Commission thinks that this qualitative advance in the class struggle in our country must be part of our party program. The proposals we are making give greater strength to the party program in the present quest for the triumph of the socialist revolution and the building of socialism.

On the economic level of the program, the proposals by the commission provide for a clarification of our development strategy. They point out the need during this phase to concentrate our efforts particularly on agricultural production and the defense of the fatherland. In this context, aspects such as the role of peasants in the family sector and the private sector, the need for state enterprises to be profitable, the need to increase productivity in all sectors, and the need to take into account in all economic projects our managerial, administrative, and financial abilities, have been well defined.

Resistance Reports 17-30 April Operations

MB101246 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 6 May 83

[Text] We have received the following war communique from the headquarters of the Mozambique National Resistance [RENAMO]:

Communique:

A. Maputo Province: On 22 April our forces ambushed three enemy vehicles near Magude. Two of them were burned. Seven Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM] soldiers were killed.

On 23 April our forces took part in combat in the (Manote) area. The enemy fled, leaving four dead on the ground. Six AK-47's, 6 rocket launchers with the necessary shells, and 15 AK-47 cartridges were captured.

On 25 April our forces engaged in combat in the (Mangarano) area. The enemy was forced to withdraw after suffering heavy casualties. An assortment of documents and large quantities of war materiel were captured.

On 26 April an antitank landmine that had been set on the Magude-Mahel road was detonated. An FPLM transport truck was completely destroyed. A total of 11 FPLM soldiers were killed.

On 27 April our forces took part in combat with FPLM forces in Daniel, Mahel area. The enemy suffered three dead, and quantities of war materiel were captured.

On 29 April our forces engaged the enemy in the Tsaninhe area. The enemy fled after suffering four dead and many wounded. Seven AK-37's, 2 RPG-7's, and two belts of ammunition for RPD weapons were among the items captured by our forces.

B. Gaza Province: On 24 April our forces engaged enemy troops which were traveling from Nalavi to Dindiza. Seven enemy soldiers were killed. The enemy retreated to Nalazi, abandoning a significant quantity of war materiel.

On 25 April we attacked the FPLM position near the (Chingomela) school, forcing the enemy to flee. During their disorderly retreat, the FPLM troops abandoned five RPG-7 shells, three AK-47's with seven cartridges, and an assortment of ammunition.

The enemy position at (Manguere) was practically flattened after repeated ambushes and attacks launched by our forces during April. A total of 29 enemy soldiers of Zimbabwean nationality were killed on 9 and 10 April.

On 26 April our forces attacked the enemy position at Chitanga. A total of four FPLM soldiers were killed.

On the same day, the enemy position at Maqueze was attacked by our forces. The local garrison was hit by our fire, and the enemy suffered heavy casualties.

On 28 April a train was destroyed in the Benjamim area. The driver, who was armed, was captured. Four FPLM soldiers, who formed the military escort, were killed. Three RPG-7's, three AK-47's, and one FN rifle were captured.

On 29 April a train was ambushed in the (Chilandamene) area, near Magude. Three FPLM soldiers who escorted the train were killed.

C. Inhambane Province: On 18 April our forces engaged the enemy in the Pembe area, Panda district. The enemy forces withdrew, and three armed FPLM soldiers were captured.

On 19 April our forces engaged FPLM troops in the (Matsuitsane) area. The enemy fled, leaving two AK-47's with four cartridges.

On 20 April enemy troops were ambushed in the Panga area, Morrumbene district. The enemy retreated after suffering two casualties.

On 21 April 23 FPLM soldiers were killed during a battle with our forces. Large quantities of war materiel were captured by our forces. On the same day, an enemy military column was subjected to our fire in the Mucoque area. Another enemy military column was attacked near Mucoque.

On 22 April a military column was attacked on National Road No 1. Two vehicles were destroyed, and nine FPLM soldiers were killed.

On 23 April our forces took part in a battle in the Mucoque area. The enemy forces retreated. Four armed FPLM soldiers surrendered to our forces.

On 24 April a military column was attacked in the Munguane area, on National Road No 1. The column was traveling from Massinga to Vilanculos. Three vehicles were destoyed, and seven FPLM soldiers were killed. Large quantities of war material were captured.

On 25 April a motorized military column was ambushed on National Road No 1, near Jangamo. A total of 21 enemy soldiers, including 9 Zimbabweans, were killed. Three vehicles were burned, and 24 automatic weapons, 5 rocket launchers, and 12 RPG-7 shells were captured by our forces. On the same day, our forces attacked the enemy position at Inhassoro. A total of 12 FPLM soldiers were captured. Also on the same day, our forces attacked the FPLM position at Mucoque. The enemy did not return the fire.

On 26 April our forces destroyed the enemy position situated near the (Inhassanga) sawmill. A total of seven enemy soldiers, including three Tanzanians, were killed. Our forces captured 13 PPSH machineguns, 3 pistols, 3 AK-47's, 2 FN rifles, 3 RPG-7's with shells, 59 PPSH cartridges, 17 AK-47 cartridges, and 5 typewriters.

On the same day, our forces attacked the enemy at Macuacua, killing four FPLM soldiers.

On 27 April a military column, which included a BTR vehicle, was attacked by our forces on National Road No 1, (Ngorogo) area. The enemy suffered five casualties.

On 28 April an enemy column was attacked in the (Sumane) area, near Morrumbene. The enemy retreated, suffering three dead. Our forces captured five RPG-7's with ammunition, three handgrenades, and seven AK-47's with eight cartridges. On the same day, another enemy military column was attacked near Morrumbene. The enemy retreated, leaving four dead on the ground and large quantities of war materiel.

On 29 April our forces took part in a battle in the (Tondane) area, Inhambane district. The enemy forces fled, leaving seven dead and two wounded, who were captured. Three armed FPLM soldiers surrendered to our forces. Our forces captured five AK-47's, four 82-mm mortar shells, one 82-mm mortar, one box of AK-47 ammunition, four RPG-7's with eight shells, seven handgrenades, and nine RPD ammunition belts.

On 30 April our forces engaged the enemy in the (Lusocume) area. The enemy fled after suffering heavy casualties. On the same day, another battle took place in the (Chissasa) area, Govuro. The enemy forces retreated, abandoning a number of automatic weapons and other war materiel.

D. Sofala Province: On 17 April our forces bombarded the enemy position at Inhaminga.

On 18 April our forces bombarded the enemy position at (Monca), near Villa Machado. The enemy suffered heavy human and materiel losses. On the same day, our forces engaged the enemy in the (Mocuve) area, Vila Machado district. Three Zimbabweans were killed.

On 19 April our forces attacked the enemy position at (Chove). The FPLM suffered heavy casualties.

On 20 April a train was ambushed near the Dondo area. The military escort was put to flight. Our forces captured 33 bags of sugar, 2 MGG weapons, 1 RPG-7 with 7 shells, 2 AK-47's, 2 MGG belts, 3 Hungarian weapons, and 2 PPSH machineguns. Our forces used automatic weapons and grenades. The enemy suffered three dead.

On 21 April our forces ambushed a train between Muanza and Inhaminga. The military escort was put to flight. The locomotive was then burned. On the same day, our forces ambushed an

enemy military column in the (Tuco Tuco) area. The enemy did not respond but suffered three casualties.

On 22 April the enemy position near Estaquinha was attacked by our forces. The enemy suffered heavy casualties, and the FPLM installations were seriously damaged.

On 23 April our forces attacked the enemy military position at (Nhamassongwe). The enemy was put to flight, suffering 17 casualties. The latter belonged to a Tanzanian contingent. A total of 24 PPSH machineguns, 36 RPG-7 shells, 14 60-mm mortar shells, 7 MGG ammunition boxes, 11 MGG ammunition belts, 14 AK-47 cartridges, 15 PPSH cartridges, 30 FN rifle cartridges, 7 RPG-7's, 2 60-mm mortars, 3 AK-47's, 2 MGG's, and 40 handgrenades were captured.

On 24 April our forces engaged the enemy in the (Guaraguara) area. The Maputo troops fled after suffering four dead and a number of wounded. Five AK-47's were captured.

On 28 April the enemy suffered seven dead when our forces attacked (Manhagangue).

E. Manica Province; On 29 April our forces bombarded the enemy position at (Ganha), Sussundenga. The enemy suffered heavy losses, and the FPLM installations were seriously damaged.

On 30 April our forces opened fire on an enemy column traveling from Rotanda, (Madzuira) area. The enemy suffered three dead. Our forces captured one B-10 cannon and three shells. On the same day, our forces bombarded the enemy position at (Chicumbiri). Nine FPLM soldiers were found dead. The enemy fled, leaving large quantities of war materiel, which were captured.

F. Zambezia Province; On 30 April our forces ambushed a military column on the road near Gurue, (Ruval) area. The enemy suffered 11 casualties, and large quantities of war materiel were captured, including 7 FN rifles, 6 AK-47's and some ammunition. On the same day and near the same place, our forces ambushed an enemy patrol, killing one FPLM soldier. One FN rifle was captured. The enemy did not retaliate.

On 24 April our forces captured an Italian worker named (Mario Ortenance). He is 24 years old and operates an earthmoving machine. He was captured during an ambush on the Mocuba-Mugeba road, some 15 km from Mugeba. Two vehicles and one tractor were destroyed during the ambush. Negotiations are in progress for an early release of the Italian worker.

G. Nampula Province: On 27 April our forces sabotaged the technical installations of the Nacala Air Force base. The installations were partially destroyed.

From 17 to 30 April 1983 our forces inflicted 207 confirmed casualties on the enemy, although the actual number is likely to be higher. A total of 20 Tanzanian and 12 Zimbabwean troops were killed, and 14 Frelimo soldiers surrended to our forces during the operations described in this communique. Four trains and 14 vehicles were destroyed.

Freedom or death, the struggle continues.

NAMIBIA

WINDHOEK OBSERVER Interviews SWAPO's Nujoma

MB121930 Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English 30 Apr 83 pp 31-33

[By Gwen Lister]

[Excerpts] Paris — Speaking to me from his suite in the Hilton Hotel in the capital of France the soft-spoken and unassuming SWAPO president, Sam Nujoma, told me in an exclusive interview on the eve of the Paris conference that SWAPO was not a communist-dominated movement and neither would they implement the communist blueprint in Namibia. Mr Nujoma also announced for the first time that Mr Hendrik Witbooi, the SWAPO leader inside Namibia who enjoys a substantial following among Namibians, particularly in the south of the territory, had been elected vice president of the SWAPO movement at a Central Committee meeting in Luanda recently.

Mr Nujoma replied to allegations, obscured by South African propaganda, that SWAPO has fallen victim to Soviet domination. On this point, he was emphatically clear — SWAPO, he said, was formed in Namibia, and those who were abroad representing the movement were sent there to present their views to the international community. When abroad, SWAPO representatives met with communists, but as Mr Nujoma put it, they were also human beings. The fact that he was now in France did not mean that he subscribed to the policy of the French Government, but he added that the United States, for instance, had been allies of the communists in the Second World War when Hitler was the enemy. SWAPO, he affirmed, would accept assistance from communist countries but in so doing, they did not have to apply to the communist blueprint.

SWAPO was also resisting the blueprint of South Africa he said and all they wanted was to be their own masters and, as he put it, "manage or mismanage our own affairs."

Mr Nujoma referred to the inevitability of the ultimate victory by SWAPO, citing as an example the American war in Vietnam when the United States dollar had consistently devalued. In the same way, the war South Africa was presently waging would cost them dearly.

Asked whether sanctions were a realistic way in which to pressure the South African Government, Mr Nujoma answered in the affirmative. The West said sanctions would not work in reprisal against South Africa, but since they themselves had applied sanctions in such countries as Iran, Poland and the Argentine, then why could they not succeed in Namibia, he asked.

If the sanctions were comprehensive the South African regime would be further isolated and they were already feeling the pinch. SWAPO supporters had called upon the West to support economic sanctions. Mr Nujoma then stated that South Africa was sitting on a volcano, as he put it, which would soon explode. Mr Nujoma added that Reagan and other Western leaders would be

doing future white generations in South Africa a disservice if they did not pressure South Africa now.

In a protracted armed struggle they would be defeated and the West would be responsible for what ultimately happened. Prime Minister Botha's new device — the so-called constitutional proposals — were described by Mr Nujoma as akin to Nazi concentration camps.

Mr Nujoma, who is obviously well-read on the South African situation as well, said that the people moved to the bantustans would be forced to sell their labour in order to live, and the United States, who ostensibly believed in freedom and human rights, had allowed this to happen.

Referring briefly during the course of questions to talks between the Angolan and South African Government on the Cape Verde Islands, Mr Nujoma said that the Angolans had reason to talk to South Africa, because the latter was invading their soil.

"SWAPO believes," he added, "that negotiations and the armed struggle are not contradictory but can run concurrently." SWAPO was ready to talk to South Africa, he said, and had always been ready and prepared to do so. They were also prepared to co-operate with the United Nations secretary general himself to implement Resolution 435. If Resolution 435 was as far off as it appeared at present, what were the alternatives left to SWAPO?

To that Mr Nujoma replied that military, political and diplomatic resistance would continue. South Africa, he said, had long prepared civil war in Namibia and as SWAPO had been vigilant enough, they resisted.

We have stamina for up to a hundred years, to see that colonialism, and foreign domination of men by men and the humiliation of Africans are discontinued," Mr Nujoma said.

Resistance, he said, would increase as it had done in the past, and the fact that it had already spread countrywide, he said, was a victory in itself. Asked about the United States' role in promoting the impertinence of South Africa concerning the implementation of Resolution 435, Mr Nujoma said the United States was playing what he called a "game of imperialism in Namibia." They wanted the uranium, copper and other minerals at the expense of the Namibian masses while at the same time they gave weapons to maintain South Africa's oppression.

He referred to the Reagan policy of constructive engagement, being that the United States had said they would stand by South Africa, because South Africa had stood by them in the past.

However, Mr Nujoma added, Prime Minister Verwoerd, Vorster and Botha had all been detained during the war because they had supported the Nazis. Reagan, he added, was supporting South Africa, because, as he put it, "whites support white."

SOUTH AFRICA

Prime Minister Comments on By-election Outcome

MB111732 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, says the government would not deviate from the course it has chosen. Commenting in Cape Town on the results of the by-elections, he said the government's constitutional guidelines which have been submitted to last year's National Party congress had been throughly tested in the by-elections and would now pass into legislation. In the last general election, the government had received a mandate to move in a specific direction, and it was intent on fulfilling the terms of the mandate. Mr Botha said in an interview with our parliamentary news staff that there were rightwing radical voters in South Africa just as there were leftwing radicals. In a democracy this was to be expected, but it was within the governing party that there existed what he termed a broad stream of reasonableness towards the problems of South Africa. Mr Botha said that any government would have to consider why it fared less well in some constituencies, and his government would accordingly conduct an investigation. South Africa, he said, found itself, together with the rest of the world, in a depression and was furthermore in the grip of a drought. Despite this, however, the country had been making good progress.

Election Outcome Affects Options on Reform

MB121326 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 May 83 p 1

[By Patrick Laurence and John Battersby]

[Excerpts] The narrow escape from political defeat of his most senior Cabinet minister and the triumph of his arch- enemy yesterday confronted the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, with the most awkward dilemma since he acceded to the premiership 4 and 1/2 years ago.

Seen in the wider context of voting patterns in the four seats at stake, these two results raised the spectre of defeat for Mr Botha in the scheduled referendum on the controversial new tri- racial constitution.

In a statement on the elections yesterday Mr Botha conceded that the electorate was "deeply divided" and that the government would have to make a thorough evaluation of the implications.

The Conservative Party obtained a total of 17,462 votes in the four contested seats to the 21,578 cast for the ruling National Party [NP]. But if the votes of the Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP] (4,312) and Progressive Federal Party (4,966) are added, the combined total of 26,740 easily surpasses that of the NP. All three opposition parties oppose the constitution.

Thus, on these figures, the prospect of defeat for the NP in a referendum is real, even if the 1,035 votes cast for the New Republic Party are added to the NP votes to give a total pro-constitution vote of 22,613.

Signalling the possibility of the defeat for the NP in a referendum, the results confront Mr Botha with a dilemma about what action to take to minimise the chance of the constitution being rejected in a referendum. Whatever action he takes, he is no longer in the "failsafe" position which he appeared to enjoy at the beginning of the current parliamentary session.

He can try to modify the constitution to meet some of the objections voiced against it by the PFP and thus persuade the PFP to vote for it in a referendum. But he would do so at the risk of alienating the rightwing in his own party and providing Dr Treurnicht with new recruits.

He can alter the constitution in a rightwing direction in a bid to appease Dr Treurnicht, which would be a dangerous venture comparable to the proverbial feeding of crocodiles.

But even if he succeeds — Mr Botha is deeply distrusted by the rightwing parties — he risks embarrassing and undermining the already beleaguered Coloured and Indian leaders who have agreed to participate in his new deal.

He can, of course, talk the rhetoric of reform while doing very little on the ground, but that has not solved any of his problems so far and is unlikely to do so in the future.

He can delay the referendum — he has said he will not hold the referendum until the drought breaks — but the tide of conservativism appears to be rising and delay may compound rather than ease his problems.

With his victory in Waterberg, Dr Treurnicht has acquired the image of a winner, and time may strengthen rather than weaken his appeal.

Homeland Leader Alleges ANC-PLO Links
MB111706 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1549 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Bisho, May 11, SAPA — The banned African National Congress has formed links with the Palestinian Liberation Organization, the Ciskei president, Lennox Sebe, said in Bisho today.

Making an announcement in the Ciskei National Assembly, President Sebe said top Ciskei intelligence men had recently discovered a leaflet in Ciskei which said the ANC and the PLO had joined hands in their struggle for liberation.

Mr Sebe described the ANC as an enemy of Ciskei. He claimed the document said Israel and South Africa were close allies, like the two liberation organisations.

"The enemy has joined hands, and if you want to eradicate communism you must improve the quality of life," said Mr Sebe.

The president said that as early as 1967, the PLO wanted to assist the ANC, but the Six-Day War erupted and prevented cooperation.

Government To Suspend Removals From Township
MB121517 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The government has agreed to a suspension of the Duncan village removals. That is according to Ciskeian Vice President W.M. Xaba. Xaba says the temporary halt to the removals from the East London township to Mndantsane has been conceded to, as he put it, cope with the township's natural population growth. Xaba says a Ciskeian delegation recently held meetings in Cape Town at which Cooperation and Development Minister Piet Koornhof agreed to the suspension.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda on Botha, OAU; Denies Supporting UNITA
MB120750 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] President Kaunda said yesterday that he would be willing to meet South African Premier Pieter Botha again to discuss the southern Africa issue only if South Africa meets certain conditions they discussed at their last meeting on the Botswana-South African border. Speaking in an interview with the heads of the mass media, President Kaunda said it would be futile to meet Mr Botha just for the sake of meeting him.

On Angola, Dr Kaunda said Zambia supports the legitimate Angolan Government of the MPLA. The president was denying malicious Western press reports that the country supported the dissident UNITA movement of Jonas Savimbi. He also disputed the implications by a band of the dissidents that they might have used Zambian territory as a springboard when they attacked an Angolan town.

Speaking on the OAU, President Kaunda said Zambia will not entertain the postponement of the OAU summit scheduled for Addis Ababa early next month. Dr Kaunda, commenting on reports that Tunisia was suggesting the postponement of the summit, said Zambia would not like to have the meeting deferred. He promised that Zambia would go to Addis Ababa for the summit.

On the local scene, President Kaunda told (?Zambians) that the party was not contradicting its policies of humanism by withdrawing government subsidies from a number of consumer goods. Dr Kaunda said although the withdrawal of subsidies would highly strain the pockets of the consumers, the party will continue its moral obligation to uplift the living standards of the people. Dr Kaunda emphasized that the withdrawal of subsidies has resulted in an increase of prices of a number of consumer goods, including Zambia's staple food, mealie meal.

Turning to factories, the president said factories in the country were operating at 40 percent capacity due to a shortage of raw materials resulting from foreign exchange shortages. He said production capacity was expected to increase when the country begins to draw on the 270 million kwacha IMF loan. President Kaunda said the government will ensure that the IMF loan was utilized to bring factories back to full operating capacity and in

that way create more jobs. He explained that the IMF loan will be used to pay for imports of raw materials for industries and would not in any form [word indistinct] the economic recovery of the country.

Dr Kaunda revealed that the current stock of oil seed, like soya beans and ground nuts, would only last for the next 4 months and the Refined Oil Products would have to import raw materials for production of edible oils.

President Kaunda also announced that he, in consultation with the prime minister, appointed a group of high officials to study the foreign exchange allocations and make recommendations to the government. Commenting on complaints from the business community on the allocation of foreign exchange, the president said the main issue was not the mechanism of allocations but the scarcity of the resource. He noted that the copper price was picking up on the international market, but [words indistinct] the possibility of the country's full economic recovery within months.

On wages and salaries, Dr Kaunda said wage and salary increments in excess of 10 percent could only be settled at the expense of employment opportunities. Dr Kaunda said increasing wages and salaries beyond 10 percent would reduce the level of employment, and this would inevitably result in industries declaring some workers redundant. The president, however, admitted that the 10 percent wage ceiling was inadequate to cushion the workers from the effects of the recent price increases of consumer goods. He said the government was not preventing workers from negotiating for salary increases beyond 10 percent, but in doing so the workers should be aware of the country's economic situation.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Meets Visiting PRC Party Delegation

MB101858 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] The visiting Chinese delegation leaves Harare tomorrow after a 6-day stay in Zimbabwe. Today the delegation, led by the deputy head of the International Liason Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, Comrade Jiang Guanghua, met the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe. Comrade Jiang told the prime minister that the visit was aimed at consolidating ties of friendship and solidarity between China and Zimbabwe.

During the visit, the delegation held discussions with several Cabinet ministers and senior government officials.

Delegation Leaves for Botswana

MB111828 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The Chinese delegation led by the deputy head of the International Liaison Committee of the Communist Party, Comrade Jiang Guanghua, left Harare today for Botswana at the end of a 6-day visit to Zimbabwe. While in the country the delegation held discussions with several Cabinet ministers and senior government officials on strengthening ties of solidarity and friendship between the two countries.

ZAPU MP From Matabeleland Arrested in Bulawayo

AB121003 Paris AFP in English 0929 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Harare, May 12 (AFP) — A member of Parliament from opposition leader Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU party has been arrested in Bulawayo, ZAPU acting [words indistinct] Chinamano confirmed today.

Thenjiwe Lesabe, MP for Matabeleland North and a ZAPU Central Committee member, was detained on Friday, Mr Chinamano said. The reasons for her arrest were not known.

Mr Chinamano denied the report by the official news agency, ZIANA, that another ZAPU Central Committee member, Piason Makoni, has left ZAPU to join ZANU-PF, the majority party of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

"I am getting fed up with these fictitious stories from ZANU-PF," Mr Chinamano said. "Every time someone leaves ZAPU for ZANU-PF, they say he is a high-ranking ZAPU official. I don't know anyone in our Central Committee by that name."

Zimbabwe's government-controlled media has been announcing widespread defections of ZAPU members since ZAPU leader Joshua Nkomo fled the country in March for self-imposed exile in London.

The ZAPU Central Committee normally has 150 members, but Mr Chinamano said that because of arrests, alleged killings and departures from the country it was impossible to say how many were free and in Zimbabwe. The Central Committee has not held a meeting since the beginning of the year.

Drought Reduces Food Reserve to 'Critical Level'

MB121038 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] The minister of agriculture, Senator Denis Norman, said the government is working on urgent measures to build the food reserve, which has been reduced to a critical level by the drought. He said these measures were necessary to preserve food supplies for next year, as the country has enough food for this year.

Senator Norman said he would soon tour drought-stricken areas to examine the extent of the damage caused by the drought.